

# New Heights

Winter 2022 ● The Magazine of Le Moyne College

An aerial night photograph of the Le Moyne College campus. The image shows several large, multi-story brick buildings with glowing windows, interspersed with green lawns and trees. A central road or path leads through the campus, and a parking lot with several cars is visible in the lower foreground. The sky is dark blue with some clouds, and distant city lights are visible on the horizon.

# 1946

**Le Moyne College Was Founded**



# Guided by the Holy Spirit

Of all the traditions that bind members of the Le Moyne family to one another, perhaps none is more beloved than the Mass of the Holy Spirit. The Mass that signifies the beginning of each academic year is an opportunity for members of the campus community to seek the Holy Spirit's guidance throughout their journey on the Heights. This year the Mass was particularly notable in that it coincided with the College's 75th anniversary. During his homily, Joseph O'Keefe, S.J., the first provincial of the USA East Province of the Society of Jesus, recalled his time as a member of Le Moyne's board of trustees and said, "I learned so much about this College, about all the good things that happened here, about its legacy, and about its future." In his remarks to the assembly following the Mass, Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse Douglas Lucia noted, "I am privileged to be part of this tradition." Thousands of Dolphins around the world undoubtedly feel the same way.



In celebration of Le Moyne's 75th anniversary, the altar was filled with College ephemeria representing each decade of its history.





Joseph O'Keefe, S.J., provincial of the USA East Province of the Society of Jesus, delivers the homily at the Mass of the Holy Spirit.





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(front and back cover) Views of the Heights as it exists today and as it appeared at its founding 75 years ago.

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[lemoyne.edu/alumni](http://lemoyne.edu/alumni)

**Sharing your story can make a big difference in other people's lives.** Le Moyne graduates have inspiring, thought-provoking and entertaining stories to share. To share your story, contact our editor at [mccartmk@lemoyne.edu](mailto:mccartmk@lemoyne.edu). To submit a class note, go to [lemoyne.edu/alumni](http://lemoyne.edu/alumni). Click the + sign next to Connect on the right column, then click Submit Class Notes.

The magazine submission deadline for the next issue is **April 15**.  
***Thank you for sharing your story!***

Le Moyne College is a diverse learning community that strives for academic excellence in the Catholic and Jesuit tradition through its comprehensive programs rooted in the liberal arts and sciences. Its emphasis is on education of the whole person and on the search for meaning and value as integral parts of the intellectual life. Le Moyne College seeks to prepare its members for leadership and service in their personal and professional lives to promote a more just society.



# LE MOYNE

New Heights is published twice a year by the Office of Communications. Opinions expressed in the magazine do not necessarily reflect those of Le Moyne College.

We welcome your opinions, suggestions and feedback on everything in our magazine. You may email them to [mccartmk@lemoyne.edu](mailto:mccartmk@lemoyne.edu) or mail to:

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## A FIRE THAT ILLUMINATES, YET CASTS NO SHADOWS

Le Moyne College, our beloved Jesuit gem, is now 75 years old. Seventy-five. Let that sink in for a moment. For 75 years, we have welcomed new students and bid farewell, but never goodbye, to graduates. We have implemented creative, dynamic ways of teaching and supported path-breaking student research. We have cared for one another, building an enduring sense of community. Even in the most challenging of circumstances, we have looked to the past with gratitude and the future with optimism. We have indeed, as Saint Ignatius exhorted us to do, set the world on fire.



Yes, we have done all of that in just 75 years – less than the average American lifespan of 78.8 years.

The anniversary we now mark has inspired me to reflect upon the road we traveled, one lined with more than 30,000 alumni, each one of them a profound force for good in the world, working to tackle seemingly intractable problems, including poverty, disease and injustice. We have established critical partnerships, most notably with the Diocese of Syracuse, an enduring relationship that Bishop Douglas Lucia himself recognized at this fall's Mass of the Holy Spirit. We have nurtured within our students the capacity to find God in all things, especially when it is difficult. Even in a world filled with pain, we hear His voice. We see a light in the darkness.

The commemoration of Le Moyne's anniversary has also moved me to consider the road that lies ahead,

one full of uncertainty and potential. We are by almost any measure a young college. I don't shy away from highlighting that fact. In fact, I believe that it is one of our strengths. Our youth empower us to innovate, to reassess and, as it might not surprise you to hear a former college point guard say, to pivot. Yes, for 75 years

Le Moyne College has set the world on fire. As I said in my own remarks at the Mass of the Holy Spirit, it is a fire

that produces "a warmth that leaves no one in the cold" and a "light that leaves no one in the dark."

I don't know what the next 75 years will hold for Le Moyne, but I'm certain of this: If you're a Dolphin, nothing is impossible, and you are never alone.

President Linda M. LeMura, Ph.D.

## Leading Le Moyne Into The Future

John Paul II once said, "The future starts today, not tomorrow." By that the late pontiff likely meant that every action taken in the present impacts the future. With that in mind, members of Le Moyne's board of trustees recently approved a four-year extension of President Linda LeMura's contract to lead Le Moyne through June 30, 2026. In doing so, the trustees cited Dr. LeMura's capacity to impact, influence and inspire those around her.

"I am very pleased that Dr. LeMura will lead Le Moyne College for many more years and will likely become the longest-serving president in the College's history," said Robert Reklaitis '75, chair of the board of trustees. "She has proven to be a transformational leader who is beloved and respected by our students, faculty, alumni and other constituencies. Through her leadership in national and international organizations, she has become a respected advocate for the Catholic and Jesuit educational mission. She has also become a pillar of the Central New York community by working with local leaders on programs to alleviate poverty, improve social and economic mobility, and create strong economic development programs. Dr. LeMura embodies the College's Jesuit mission, and the trustees are unanimous that we have the right person to lead us."



## Guided by Our Past





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# 75 YEARS OF Growth

The number of Jesuits living on campus is down, while the number of students who self-identify as spiritual but not necessarily religious is up.

Women have come to play an ever-growing leadership role on campus, up to and including the selection of Linda LeMura, Ph.D., as Le Moyne's first female president.

As student expectations of what college life will be like have changed, so too has the physical campus. Case in point: Among many other things, Le Moyne is now home to the Panasoi Family Chapel, Palony Wellness Studios, Madden School of Business and Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship.

Past 'Phins frequented Wanda's and the Shire. Today they can grab a pint at Simon's, right on campus.

Nurturing students, regardless of their major, to be adaptable and flexible as they prepare to begin their vocations has grown more and more critical.

The technology today's students use – from the powerful computers that fit into their pockets to video-conferencing software like Zoom – has profoundly impacted their college experience.

The College recognizes that it is important for people to interact with individuals whose thoughts, ideals and opinions may vary widely from their own. Over the years Le Moyne has grown its efforts in support of diversity and inclusion through the establishment of the Office of Inclusive Excellence and Global Education and a broad array of programs.

Le Moyne has committed itself to nurturing leaders in science, technology, engineering and math, commonly known as STEM. The College is home to the state-of-the-art McNeil Science Complex, biology has become one of the most popular majors on campus, and more students are participating in Stempower, a dynamic program for women interested in pursuing careers in these critical fields.

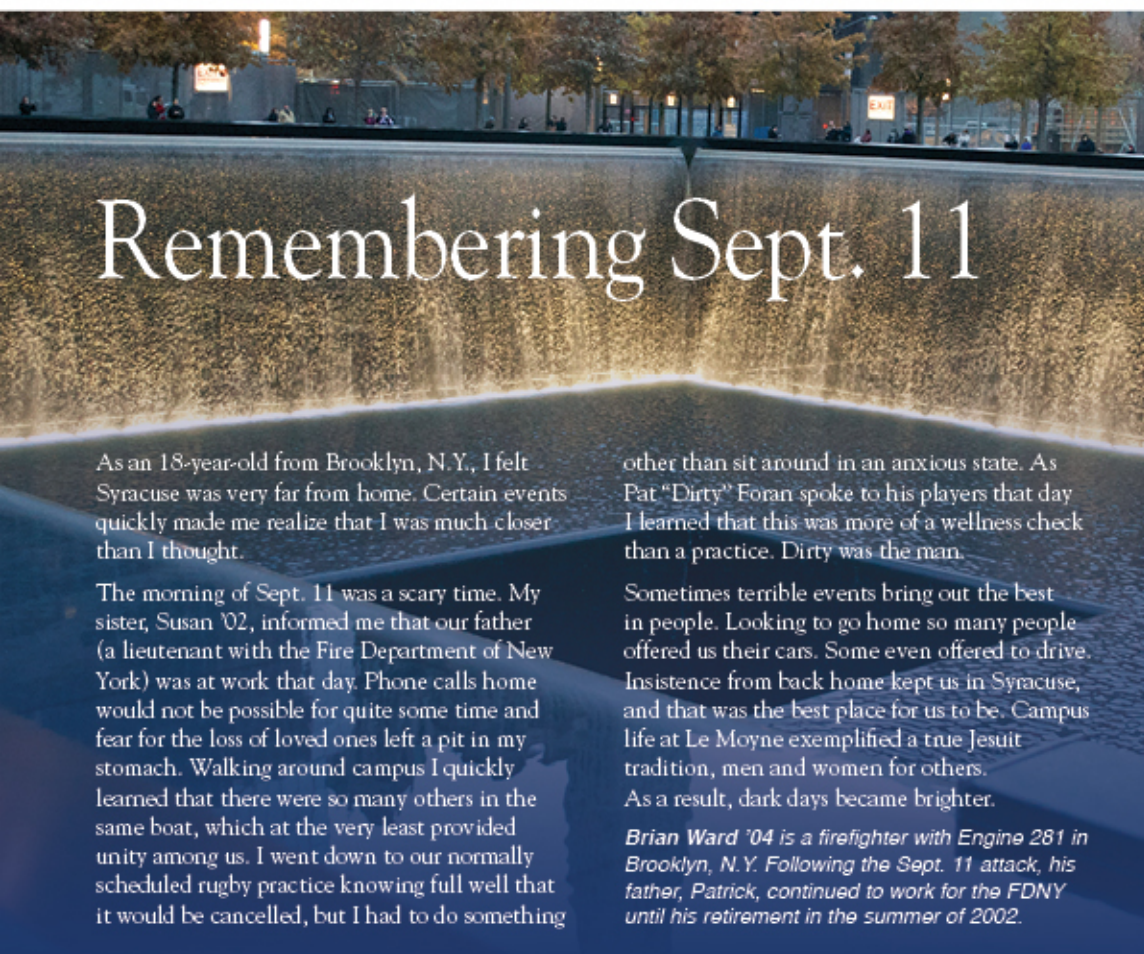
The College's earliest students enjoyed a variety of activities, including Glee Club, Sodality, and Boot and Buskin. Today Dolphins participate in and lead more than 80 clubs and organizations.



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# Do You Remember When?

We asked members of the Le Moyne community what life was like on campus during critical moments in the history of the nation and the world. Here's what they had to say.



## Remembering Sept. 11

As an 18-year-old from Brooklyn, N.Y., I felt Syracuse was very far from home. Certain events quickly made me realize that I was much closer than I thought.

The morning of Sept. 11 was a scary time. My sister, Susan '02, informed me that our father (a lieutenant with the Fire Department of New York) was at work that day. Phone calls home would not be possible for quite some time and fear for the loss of loved ones left a pit in my stomach. Walking around campus I quickly learned that there were so many others in the same boat, which at the very least provided unity among us. I went down to our normally scheduled rugby practice knowing full well that it would be cancelled, but I had to do something

other than sit around in an anxious state. As Pat "Dirty" Foran spoke to his players that day I learned that this was more of a wellness check than a practice. Dirty was the man.

Sometimes terrible events bring out the best in people. Looking to go home so many people offered us their cars. Some even offered to drive. Insistence from back home kept us in Syracuse, and that was the best place for us to be. Campus life at Le Moyne exemplified a true Jesuit tradition, men and women for others. As a result, dark days became brighter.

*Brian Ward '04 is a firefighter with Engine 281 in Brooklyn, N.Y. Following the Sept. 11 attack, his father, Patrick, continued to work for the FDNY until his retirement in the summer of 2002.*

## Casualties of War

Vietnam touched Le Moyne in many ways. Dozens of the school's alumni had been sent to Southeast Asia by the American armed forces. Some had died there, like James F. Saxby '68, the goaltender on the men's soccer team who was shot down as pilot of a military transport. Some were imprisoned, like Peter J. Giroux '66, one of the first POWs returned after the January 1973 Treaty of Paris. Most came home, with or without wounds, with or without pride, and with or without a new perspective on their lives. Among the casualties of the war, at Le Moyne as at many other colleges, were the rules and restrictions under which previous generations

of students had lived. Dress codes, curfews and a dry campus were now considered by many students to be relics of a paternalistic past. They were swept away quickly, soon to be forgotten by those for whom a shrinking job market posed a more immediate problem.

*John Langdon, Ph.D. '67, H'17, is an emeritus professor of history at the College.*



## It's the Jesuit!



On March 13, 2013, I was in the Campus Ministry office, aware that Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio, a fellow Jesuit, had been, for lack of a better term, "a finalist" in the previous papal conclave. Still I thought it unlikely that a cardinal who had not been a diocesan priest would be elected to the post. That had not happened since Pope Gregory XVI, who was a Dominican, was chosen in 1831. During their final vows, Jesuits promise not to seek high office in the Church, and only to accept it when commanded to do so to meet an important need of the Church "by him who has the power to command under pain of sin." That would be the pope himself.

Someone said there was a report of white smoke coming out of the chimney atop the Sistine Chapel (the sign a new pope has been elected), so our administrative assistant at the time, Debbie Stirpe, and I went to the nearest television. It was exciting to watch the Cardinal proto deacon walk out onto a balcony and announce in Latin, "*Georgium Mariam Cardinal Sancti Romani Ecclesiae Bergoglio.*" I was surprised, even shocked, and said, invoking the name of the Lord, "It's the Jesuit!" I immediately walked to the office of our then rector, the late John Bucki, S.J. He was on the phone, so I slipped him a one-sentence note: "The new pope is a Jesuit." His eyes widened, he smiled and nodded and, as a good Jesuit, dutifully returned to his call.

*Bill Dolan, S.J., is a campus minister and former adjunct professor of history.*



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## The Pace of Change

My first recollections of what life was like post-Vatican II are the obvious, the Mass in English, the priest facing the congregation, lay persons involved in the celebration of the Mass, the establishment of parish councils, interfaith services and folk music at Mass. Each contributed to a feeling of openness and a sense that all were involved in the solemnity of the Mass and shared a responsibility to preach the message of the Catholic faith. It was a hopeful and energizing feeling.



As my time at Le Moyne moved forward, the reaction, both on campus and in my home parish, was more muted. Vatican II had not gone far enough. It did not address the life issues that were present on campus. Issues such as the role of women in the Church (there were no female participants at Vatican II, only a small number of invited observers), sexual morality, contraception, second unions and social justice were not addressed. The hopefulness of the early days was now confronted by the reality of the '60s. It seemed that while a major first step had been taken by the Church, the world was changing at a pace, in the United States at least, that exceeded the Church's ability to react to those changes.

**Bill O'Brien '70, Ph.D.**, is the retired chief of the mental health service at the Dayton, Ohio, V.A. Medical Center.



When you go to school in a place where Syracuse University (SU) basketball is the talk of the town, the notoriety that goes along with beating the Orange follows you around that town and beyond. My teammates and I experienced this firsthand. On Nov. 3, 2009, we beat SU, 82 to 79, in the Carrier Dome. (At the time Syracuse was ranked a top 25 team in the pre-season polls and did even better during the 2009-10 season after losing to us.) The game was the top story on ESPN's *SportsCenter*. Friends and family from near and far called and texted, offering their congratulations. And if I remember correctly, Le Moyne's online store crashed because of the abundance of traffic.

The excitement of the Le Moyne community was unforgettable. But following our win, my teammates and I had to adjust to a new level of attention focused on us, both locally as well as when we traveled to away games. On the road we were known as "the team that beat Syracuse." There was definitely a new target on our backs as we competed in our league. All in all, though, it was a memorable game, a memorable year and a memorable event in all of our lives, and something that we surely cherish.

**Damani Corbin '09, MBA '10** was a point guard for the Dolphins. He currently works for the software company Weaveworks.

## A Clear Vision

In reflecting on early 2014, the period of time leading up to Linda LeMura assuming the presidency of Le Moyne College, I have such vivid memories of the various conversations I was part of in my role as chair of Le Moyne's board of trustees. One of the board's responsibilities is to appoint the president, but it is also crucial that we do this in collaboration with the entire Le Moyne community.



It was abundantly clear very early on in all of these conversations that there was widespread support for Dr. LeMura as the next president. Our primary goal was to appoint the best person to lead Le Moyne into the future. Dr. LeMura was that person. The fact that she was a woman, and that she would be the first-ever female lay president of a Jesuit College in the United States, was an added bonus.

Honestly, only after she had been appointed and the press focused on the fact that her appointment was ground-breaking did it really sink in for me. We accomplished our goal of appointing the best person for the job, but I finally realized how much it meant for me and the entire Le Moyne community and Jesuit network that she was a woman. The best way for me to describe this feeling is that it was an immense sense of pride.

**Sharon (Kinsman) Salmon '78** is the retired vice president and assistant treasurer for Pfizer and former chair of the Le Moyne College board of trustees.



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# Four Generations of 'Phins

Terri (Walker) Czopp was just 3 years old when her father, Gene Walker, graduated from Le Moyne in June of 1951, a member of the College's inaugural class. She remembers standing on the steps in front of Grewen Hall that summer day, taking photos with him wearing his cap and gown, along with the class ring that would remain on his finger for the rest of his life. Terri grew up listening to Gene talk about his education with a sense of profound gratitude, taking trips to the Heights, where she and her siblings were given wide berth to explore the nascent campus. No one told the Walker children that they had to go to Le Moyne one day, but three out of eight did, including Terri, a member of the Class 1970.

"All in all, I think it was a pretty good showing for our family," she says.

While Terri couldn't have known it at the time, it was just the start of what would become her family's enduring connection to the College. She and her husband, Stefan Czopp '69, whom she met on campus, have four daughters, two of whom, Laura (Czopp) Barnum and Stefanie (Czopp) Lints, graduated from Le Moyne in 1997 and 2000 respectively. And in August 2001, Laura's daughter, Alyssa, joined the Le Moyne Class of 2025, making the family the first four-generation one in Le Moyne's history. (Alyssa shared the news of her decision to attend the College with

her grandparents by walking into their home in Buffalo, N.Y., wearing her mom's Le Moyne sweatshirt and a huge smile.)

Gene Walker's brood has witnessed Le Moyne's history as it has unfolded, from its earliest days, when classes were held in the Hiscock Mansion on James Street with just a few hundred students, to today, with 2,800 undergraduate and 600 graduate students living and learning on a bustling 160-acre campus. During Gene's undergraduate years, many of his classmates were veterans returning from World War II and the majority of his teachers were Jesuits. Terri arrived on campus as the war in Vietnam was at its peak and as many Catholics were still adjusting to life post-Vatican II. Laura and Stefanie's years at the College were largely marked by peace, prosperity and the proliferation of the Internet. As for what Alyssa's time on the Heights will hold, that remains to be seen. However, it will surely be shaped equally by nearly 500 years of Ignatian tradition and the College's capacity to grow and change with the times, the latter of which is one of the things that Laura appreciates most about the College.

"No matter what is thrown at them, no matter what

**Generation 1**  
Gene Walker '51



**Generation 3**  
Laura (Czopp) Barnum '97 and  
Stefanie (Czopp) Lints '00



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## Generation 2

Terri (Walker) Czopp '70  
(Stefan Czopp '69)

challenges they may face, I know that Le Moyne's strength will carry its alumni, students and staff through it all," she says.

For this family, Le Moyne is not so much a place as it is a group of people. Terri recalls that whenever she walked by an administrator's office, the doors were always open and she was welcome to have a conversation with that person, appointment or not. Laura remembers the day she visited the campus as a high school senior and bumped into a student who then spent 45 minutes talking to her, answering her questions, and making her feel at home. She may have been hesitant about attending her parents' alma mater before, but in that moment, she knew Le Moyne was the place for her. Stefanie recollects always feeling part of the larger 'Phin family, whether it was on the soccer field or in her classes. And all three say they forged some of their longest-lasting friendships at the College.

Alyssa hopes to have a similar experience on the Heights. By early September, she was already settling into a new routine on campus, diving into her classes as a student in the Integral Honors Program and joining a student trip to Orchard Park, N.Y., for a pre-season Buffalo Bills game. She noted that no one in her family put any pressure on her to attend Le Moyne. (In fact, when she visited the campus, she

did so only with her dad. Her mom stayed home, confident that, if the College was the right place for Alyssa, "it would sell itself.")

Still Alyssa can't help but be aware of her family's strong connection to the College. She's heard the stories, for example, of her great uncle, Jack Shea '58, giving Le Moyne's yearbook its name, Black Robe; of her father coming to campus to visit her mother when they were dating; of her large extended family donning their Le Moyne gear and cheering as loudly as they could for the College's teams. Today one of her most treasured family mementos is a simple notebook that her grandmother gave to her. Terri purchased it in the Le Moyne bookstore for 25 cents when she was a student and, some 50 years later, it contains notes from her classes as well as from the process of planning her wedding to Stefan.

Today, it is hard for Terri to describe what it is like to watch her granddaughter forge her own path on the campus that has been a home away from home for so many people she loves.

"It brings tears to my eyes," she says. "I want my granddaughter to have the same experiences, to develop the same lasting genuine friendships, to receive a quality education, to be challenged to the best of her ability, and I know she is going to get all of this wrapped up in one word: Le Moyne."

By Molly K. McCarthy

## Generation 4 - Alyssa Barnum '25



## The family connection does not end there!

Terri's uncle, **Jack Shea '58**, sister **Shella (Walker) Barrett '69** and brother-in-law **Thomas Barrett '68** are also Le Moyne alumni, as is her late sister **Marypat (Walker) Bowen '74** and nephew **Mark Demarest '06**.



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# How Much Do You Know?

## ABOUT LE MOYNE ♦

By Joe Della Posta



When he moved to Syracuse in 1944 to become the director of the Christ the King Retreat House, this future president of Le Moyne became the first Jesuit to be stationed in Syracuse in 290 years. Who was he?

Robert F. Grew, S.J., who served as the College's third president from 1954 to 1961.

A total of 56 acres of land was purchased as a possible site for the new Jesuit college in Syracuse but was eventually determined to be too small. What sits on this site now?

The Brighton Towers Apartments at the intersection of Rock Cut Road and East Brighton Avenue.



What was the price for the 103-acre parcel of farmland purchased from Rosamond Gifford where the College would ultimately be located?

\$50,000

How much money was raised during a two-week drive in 1946 to fund the fledgling college?

\$1.5 million, exceeding the \$1 million goal by more than 50 percent.

What year did Simon Le Moyne, S.J., first travel to upstate New York, eventually making his way to the shores of Onondaga County?

1654 - he would travel back and forth from Quebec to the region for the next 8 years. Father Le Moyne died in 1662.

What significant event in the history of Le Moyne took place on June 11, 1948?



A motorcade of students drove from the Hiscock Mansion at 830 James Street (the site of early classes) to the Heights, where the administration and science building were being built.

What popular TV show did the Le Moyne Glee Club appear on in 1953?



The Ed Sullivan Show - other acts on the show were singers Don Cornell, Betty Crooney (Rosemary's sister), and a primate named Zippy the Chimp.

## Highlights from 75 Years



1946: The College is founded.

1947: The first day of classes is held on Sept. 15, at the Hiscock Mansion on James Street.



1951: Le Moyne holds its first Commencement at the New York State Fairgrounds Coliseum.

1953: The Le Moyne Glee Club, directed by Leo Fisselbrand, performs on *The Ed Sullivan Show*.





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When it was completed in 1963, what was the claim to fame of St. Mary's Hall?

It was the first residence hall for women ever built on a Jesuit campus.

In the 1989 College World Series, what was the score of Le Moyne's match-up against Penn when the game was suspended due to rain in the bottom of the fifth inning?



Le Moyne was losing 15 to 3. When the game continued the next day the Dolphins scored seven runs in the top of the eighth and five runs in the top of the ninth on its way to an improbable 18 to 16 win, at the time the largest comeback in the NCAA baseball history.



What popular network TV show did both Siobhan Fallon-Hogan '83 and Tim DeKay '85 appear on in the 1990s?

Saturday Night Live. Fallon-Hogan played the roommate of Elaine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus) and dated Kramer (Michael Richards), and DeKay was Bizzaro Jerry, a boyfriend of Elaine.

What was the major of John Douglas Thompson '85, who has become one of the world's premiere Shakespearian actors?

Business. Born to Jamaican parents in England and raised in Montreal, Thompson was not involved with the drama program during his time at Le Moyne.



What former Le Moyne professor did Paul Simon call the "radical priest" in his 1972 song "Me and Julio Down by the Schoolyard"?

Daniel Berrigan, S.J., who taught theology at Le Moyne from 1957 to 1963 and was the first moderator of the International House at the College. Father Berrigan, whose family moved to Syracuse when he was 5, had a long history of social activism that resulted in dozens of arrests.

Who is the longest serving president in the College's history?

William L. Reilly, S.J., who served as president for 11 years, from 1964 to 1975.

Who was the only Le Moyne alum killed in action during the Vietnam War?



James F. Saxby '68, who was the pilot of a military transport plane that was shot down.

Where was the first known printed reference to Dolphy Day?



The May 17, 1971, issue of *The Piper* (which briefly succeeded *The Dolphin* as the student newspaper) stated "After a year of winter, Eric Dolphy Day has been comparatively blazing."

1955: Margaret Snyder succeeds Rita Rossburg as the College's dean of women, making her the youngest person in that role in the United States at the age of 24.



1956: Mother Cabrini Hall – the eventual site of International House – is purchased.



1961: K.R. Hanley of the Department of Philosophy is hired as the College's first female professor.



1962: The dining center opens.





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Who are the six townhouses on the east end of campus named after?



17th century Jesuit missionaries - Jerome Lallemant, S.J., Isaac Jogues, S.J., Charles Garnier, S.J., Anthony Daniel, S.J., Noel Chabanel, S.J., and Jean de Brebeuf, S.J. Jogues, Daniel, Chabanel and Brebeuf were later canonized and became saints within the Catholic Church.

What year was the Panasci Family Chapel dedicated?



1994. The main chapel in the building was dedicated as the Madonna della Strada (Our Lady of the Way).

What was the College's connection to Robert and Kay McDevitt, who gave Le Moyne a \$50 million gift in 2008?



Robert's cousin Edward McDevitt, S.J., had founded the College's Department of Physics in the 1940s.

What Academy Award-winning movie was based on the extended family of Thomas J. Niland Jr., Le Moyne's first basketball coach and athletic director?



Saving Private Ryan. Two of his cousins, Preston and Robert Niland, were killed in World War II in the D-Day invasion in 1944. A third cousin, Edward, was shot down over Burma and presumed dead but later was found alive in a POW camp. Tom was a WWII veteran and took part in the first waves of the D-Day invasion.

In what year did the Madden School of Business move to Mitchell Hall? And what was the original use of the building when it opened in 1958?

Mitchell Hall was renovated to house Madden in 2013. The building was the original Jesuit Loyola Residence on campus.



What institution did Linda LeMura, Ph.D., turn down the presidency from prior to being named the 14th president of Le Moyne in 2014?



La Salle University in Philadelphia.

## Highlights from 75 Years continued

1963: Saint Mary's Hall, the first residence hall for women on a Jesuit college campus, is completed.



1965: David Miller '65 is believed to be the first person to burn his draft card in public during a rally against the Vietnam War in New York City.



1972: Carl Thomas '65, H '19, is named director of the College's Higher Education Opportunity Program, a position he would hold for 41 years.

1981: The new library, with 56,000 square feet and 250,000 volumes, opens. It is formally named in honor of alumna Noreen (Reale) Falcone '58 in 1998.

1988: Gen Saya, who worked at the College from 1953 until 2003 and is one of its most endearing figures, is named the College's first female vice president.







"I learned that Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel was going to give a public talk in Boston, Mass. Many of us had read his *Night* trilogy as part of various classes. I spoke to a few friends and with the support of faculty we quickly organized a trip to hear him. Elie's talk was unforgettable and he was delighted to hear of our road trip to see him. During our drive back we continued to reflect on lessons of life and our time on campus. Le Moyne supported building learning communities beyond classrooms and we had some of our most memorable moments there."

**Tenzin Priyadarshi '01**

"College was one of the most exciting and precious times of my life. I am always reflecting back to my time in college: the friendships, the partying and, occasionally,

the studying. There is nothing that makes my experience more complete than the memories I have and continue to share with my college classmates. Those memories include evenings at Wanda's, the library, Sam's, Shifty's, Westin Manor and Coleman's. I look forward to seeing all my classmates at our 50th reunion."

**Larry Egan '71**

"My favorite Le Moyne memory is being part of the editing team for *The Salamander*, the College's creative writing journal. These late-night editing sessions with my fellow editors were filled with laughter and excitement as we argued passionately over commas, grabbed french fries from the Den, and marveled over the imaginative works of our peers. And, at the end of it all, opening

up a box filled with newly printed copies of *The Salamander* made the whole thing unforgettable."

**Natasha Beauchesne '20**

Great Le Moyne memories included some crazy late nights in the computer lab (no laptops or internet) and insane van rides with the hoops team, but my favorites are practicing with the Cellar Dwellers in the basement of Dablon Hall. (Yeah, that's how we came up with the name.) As a mediocre guitar player in a college band full of real musicians, I had a blast entertaining/annoying the entire dorm and hanging with friends on random Friday nights.

**Jim Henderson '87**



**1993:** Le Moyne launches its first graduate program, a Master of Business Administration.

**1994:** The Panasci Family Chapel opens, providing the Le Moyne community with a new space for worship, ministry and fellowship.

**2000:** Le Moyne bids farewell to the Firehouse and hello to the W. Carroll Coyne Center for the Performing Arts.



**2004:** The Dolphins earn their first national championship in men's lacrosse.

**2014:** The College of Arts and Sciences is established to represent the liberal arts as the heart and soul of the College.

**2015:** The John and Kathy Purcell School of Professional Studies is named following a \$6.5 million gift from John '65 and Kathy '66 Purcell.



## Greatness meets Goodness > GUIDED BY OUR PAST



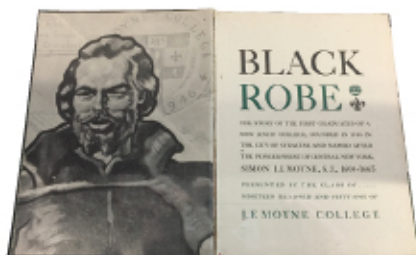
# At Our Core

Many of Le Moyne's first students picked up arms in defense of liberty half a world away. They took a chance on "a new Jesuit school on the hill," greeted by people like founding faculty member Andrew Brady, S.J., whose penchant for walking up and down the aisles of his classroom as he lectured ensured that his students paid strict attention in his class. Today's Dolphins organize against the forces that now threaten our freedom, from climate change to poverty to systemic racism. Like their predecessors, they were drawn to a campus that many describe as "friendly, welcoming and warm," but which now offers programs in fields like cybersecurity and software applications and systems development that the earliest Dolphins could scarcely have imagined. For 75 years, the College guided all of its students toward a greater understanding of the world around them, their place in it, and their capacity to shape it for the better. That is who we are at our core, and that is who we will always be, whether it's 75, 150 or 225 years from now.





## Greatness meets Goodness > GUIDED BY OUR PAST



An image of the College's namesake, Simon Le Moyne, S.J., graced the first edition of the College's yearbook, *Black Robe*.



Early in the College's history, freshmen were easily identified by the jaunty green and gold beanies atop their heads.



The College's earliest biology majors used this microscope to unravel the mysteries of science.



A Bene Merenti medal made for someone who worked at Le Moyne from 1947-1967.



President John Kennedy, the first Catholic to lead the nation, wrote about the benefits of a liberal arts education in a 1959 edition of *The Heights* alumni magazine.



The sound of this bell, rung by the College's first dean, Joseph Beglan, S.J., served as an audible reminder that class was in session.



Allison Leshar '08, a member of the swimming and diving team, won the first individual national championship in College history.

The original 24 Second Clock first used in the 1954-55 NBA Season. Danny Biasone, founding owner of the Syracuse Nationals, came up with the idea for the clock and gave it to Le Moyne due to his friendship with Thomas Niland Jr., the College's first athletic director.



Students inducted into the Alpha Sigma Delta and Alpha Sigma Nu honor societies were presented with metal pins in honor of their academic achievements.

## MEMORABILIA

We carry our memories in our hearts. That is for sure. But there are pieces of our history everywhere we go, artifacts of where we've been, what we've accomplished and who we've met along the way. In honor of the College's 75th anniversary, we found these pieces of memorabilia around campus that help to tell Le Moyne's story, in all of its richness.



The addition to the College's Coyne Science Center was awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification upon its completion in 2013.



A bust of Pedro Arrupe, former superior general of the Society of Jesus, was created by longtime faculty member Jacqueline Belfort-Chalat.



# Pride in Our Present





## Questions on Forgiveness



Is forgiveness important? Could a relationship without forgiveness be sustained? (Jesus implied it would be intolerable and the only ground for divorce.) Is it possible for one nation to forgive another? While these words are being written the United States House of Representatives is considering HR-40, a bill that would provide compensation to the descendants of slaves. If passed, would this constitute an adequate apology and would acceptance of the money signify forgiveness?

What if the idea of forgiveness didn't exist? What state of mind would fill the existing void? Revenge? Retribution? Resentment? Rage? The absence of forgiveness would obliterate the Christian faith to be sure. Would the world be a better place sans forgiveness as an option to the injured, offended or betrayed? Is forgiveness a virtue? If so, can a person be morally upright while withholding forgiveness? Finally, is a person who refuses to grant forgiveness forfeiting eligibility for receiving it?

The book I recently wrote on this subject, *Forgiveness*, is brief compared to numerous other books on forgiveness. Its brevity is intentional. Anyone deliberating on the possibility of forgiving someone is unlikely to benefit from a lengthy treatise on the subject. More likely to be helpful is an unambiguous analysis of what forgiveness is and is not along with an argument that favors forgiveness over withholding it.

**Max Malikow, Th.D.**, is an adjunct professor of philosophy at the College.

## Prepping Puppy Pioneers

When Beth Mercer's brother, Kevin Waters, was paired with a guide dog after losing his sight in his early 40s, she saw the ways in which it transformed his world, giving him renewed freedom and independence. Mercer appreciated the ways the dog enriched his life, not just from her perspective as a sister, but as a medical professional. Mercer directs the College's Physician Assistant Studies Program. She has dedicated her career to the care and well-being of others and to preparing PA students for lives of service. Mercer emulates that in her own life – giving back whenever and wherever she can.

Mercer and her family are currently serving as "puppy raisers" for Freedom Guide Dogs, the Cassville, N.Y., based organization that paired Waters with his first assistance dog some 20 years ago – and three more since then. They are currently raising Clover, a Labrador-Collie mix, socializing her and introducing her to as many people, environments and animals as possible and teaching her basic commands so that she will be confident and adaptable as a guide. Clover will live with the Mercers until she is about 15 months old, at which point she will return to Freedom Guide Dogs for an additional four to six months of intensive training. If she completes that successfully, she will be matched with someone who needs her assistance and will begin to work.

Mercer has been bringing Clover to campus as often as she can and has found that the dog's presence is a treat for the students, particularly during days when they have long labs to complete. She encourages others who have the time, heart and space to do so to seriously consider puppy raising. The hardest part, she says, is giving the dog back after he or she has earned a special place in your heart. But knowing what the puppy will mean to someone else makes it entirely worth it.



## Putting the Green in Green and Gold



Le Moyne was recognized as one of the nation's most environmentally responsible institutions of higher education. It received a **green rating of 85** from The Princeton Review's 2022 Guide to Green Colleges.

Le Moyne was founded in 1946, 16 years before Rachel Carson published her seminal environmental science book, *Silent Spring*; 24 years before the first Earth Day would be celebrated; and 60 years before the release of the award-winning documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*. Today's students regard the preservation of the environment, and by extension life, as one of the most critical issues facing their generation. The College is home to majors in environmental studies and environmental science systems; the physical campus has been designed with sustainability in mind; and students and staff alike work to increase recycling and reduce food waste on campus.



## Greatness meets Goodness &gt; PRIDE IN OUR PRESENT

# Words of Wisdom

Le Moyne's new trustees share their thoughts on leadership, empathy and what it means to be Jesuit educated.

## Being First in Love



What inspires me to serve others is intimately tied to my ability to love. Pope Francis has preached that Christian doctrine is alive. This means Christianity has flesh, breath and a face. Christianity has a body that moves and grows, it has a soft flesh: It is called Jesus Christ. St. Ignatius teaches us that we should be in relationship with this Christ and to let our hearts be moved by this relationship. I can't serve others if I can't see them as my sisters and brothers. It is to love in a radical way. I was an arrogant young man when I was in high school and college. Self-love was never an issue for me. In so many ways, I related to James and John asking Jesus for the most prominent seats in heaven and on earth. At the core of their

desire was a "drum major instinct – a desire to be out front, a desire to lead the parade." Much like St. Ignatius of Loyola, whose vanity has been well publicized, James and John felt a need to be superior. Jesus' response to Ignatius, James and John was not to condemn this instinct, but to redirect its energy to servant leadership. Keep feeling the need for being first. But I want you to be first in love. That's the drum that I keep beating.

**Mario Powell, S.J.** – *president, Brooklyn Jesuit Prep*

## Being Open to Lessons Offered

It is very difficult for me to single out any one mentor. I believe that every person has something to teach you. Some people do that by engaging with you and sharing their talents, passions or spirituality. Others do it by example and you only have the opportunity to observe that person or interact with him or her in a modest way. I also believe that people give what they can. Sometimes that's years of tutelage and in other circumstances it's a single conversation. Consequently, it's important to be observant, mindful and reflective so you are in position to take on board what is being offered.

I am appreciative for each mentor who has taken the time to explain their path, their thinking, their mistakes and their fears. I am better off because of each mentor who cared enough to correct me and saw me well enough to encourage me. Perhaps, though, I am most fortunate for having mentors who held a mirror up to show me things I hadn't been able to see in myself.

**Elizabeth Allyn** – *chief legal officer, general counsel and secretary, NPR Inc.*



## Nurturing Civic Life

One event that inspired me to serve others occurred when I was 12 years old. My father owned a golf course and we would clean out the large commercial refrigerator at the end of each season and bring the remaining food to a homeless shelter on the South Side of Syracuse. I was lifting a box of lemons to bring into the shelter's kitchen and one lemon dropped on the ground. A homeless man picked up the lemon and ate it whole, and I watched as the lemon made its way down the man's throat.



This was a stark moment for me to witness hunger and to see the desperate conditions people face. Since then, I have volunteered to work with nonprofit organizations and to be engaged in whatever community I am living in at the time. One of the great strengths of America is what Alexis de Toqueville described in the 1830s as "voluntary associations" where "... people of divergent minds come together to solve a problem." In this strife-ridden time, I hope all of us can continue to volunteer in ways that help others, are meaningful to us, and as a way to nurture our community's civic life. What attracts me to Le Moyne College is its deep commitment to serving others.

**Joe Grasso** – *associate dean for finance, administration and corporate relations, Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations*



## What Inspires Me to Serve Others?



My inspiration for serving others comes from my deeply held gratitude for all the gifts and blessings I have received in my life. When I was in high school, my dad (Le Moyne Class of 1956) was diagnosed with stage-four cancer. As a result, my family's financial situation deteriorated dramatically. However, I was able to remain at my Catholic, Dominican high school (St. Agnes Academy in Houston) because the school waived tuition for my last two years there. I was then able to attend Le Moyne due to Pell grants, a work-study job in the Security Office (located in the basement of Nelligan Hall) and a part-time job at Dey Brothers at Shoppingtown Mall.

I credit my successful 23-year legal career to the lessons and ideals instilled by my Jesuit education. Ignatian values have infused every area of my life and are my inspiration to serve as board chair of my high school, as well as a board member for Texas Appleseed and the Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas. I am honored to join the Le Moyne board of trustees. My four years on the Heights quite simply transformed my life, and I hope my life of service inspires others to use their Jesuit education in furtherance of service as women and men for others.

**Gina DeBottis Metts '89** – executive director, Special Prosecution Unit (state of Texas) (retired)

## The Importance of a Strong Mentor

My most important mentors were without a doubt my parents, Donald (Don) J. '51 and Jacqueline (Jackie) McGill '52 Savage. My father exhibited all the characteristics of a good leader. He was loved and respected by everyone – friends, family, business associates, people in the community – because of the way he led. He invested his time in people and their development, was humble and thoughtful about how he approached the world, and recognized his responsibility as a leader. My mother taught me things from a different perspective – the importance of standing strong and being vocal for the things we believe are right and just. Mom was no wallflower. She would tell you what she believed was right and why and then challenge you on the same. No way I got to where I am without them.

**Joe Savage '84** – chief financial officer, Victaulic



## Leadership Begins with Connecting to Others



When I first began working, I tied my definition of leadership to a position, title or authority level. I remember hearing folks say things like "You can learn as much from a bad leader as a good one." However, as my time in the work environment continued, I would say that my definition of leadership began to shift.

I began to believe that leadership has much less to do with people's titles or positions and much more to do with who they are as individuals. It has to do with the values they believe are important – honesty, trust, empathy, respect, integrity – and how they engage with others. Equally important are the skills individuals utilize to drive their work, to bring people together for a common cause, and to build followers to a goal. It's the people skills of communicating, listening, connecting and inspiring that matter.

**Denise Quinn '78** – vice president/plant manager, Molson Coors Beverage Company (retired)

## Living the Jesuit Educational Experience

Simply put, my Jesuit education is largely responsible for my commitment to serve others. Being in the field of K-12 education, I recognize that we are all servants working to help students grow and learn from the successes and failures that come with learning. I have lived this experience as a student in great Jesuit schools like Fordham Prep and at Le Moyne, and I have had the pleasure of being part of the teams serving students at wonderful schools like Washington Jesuit Academy, Georgetown Prep and The Woods Academy. In schools there is nothing more important than the children in front of you. Helping them to grow and see how they can serve others in their lives and careers is vital. This is what the many fine people and great schools I have attended and worked at taught me. Now it is time to do my part. I am honored to be able to continue to lead as the head of school at The Woods Academy and now serve as a trustee at Le Moyne.

**Joseph Powers '95** – head of school, The Woods Academy





## Greatness meets Goodness &gt; PRIDE IN OUR PRESENT



Tamana Tajik '23 (center) enjoys a moment outside of the With Love Restaurant with her sisters Soniya (right) and Raheleh (left).

When it comes to the culinary arts, **Tamana Tajik '23** acknowledges that her strengths lie more in tasting than cooking. "Everyone has their gifts," she says with a laugh. Tajik's particular set of skills lies not in chopping, seasoning and sautéing, but in organizing, leading and uplifting others. Yet she recently found herself standing in the kitchen of the With Love Restaurant in downtown Syracuse, alongside her sisters, Soniya and Raheleh, surrounded by pots, pans and ingredients, helping to prepare authentic Afghan food. She was there to raise funds in support of charities benefiting a nation she's never had the opportunity to visit, but which she will always call home. And in doing so, she truly lived Saint Ignatius' credo: "Love is shown more in deed than words."

Tajik's parents fled Afghanistan in the late 1990s, before she was born. They lived in Pakistan and Iran before eventually settling in the United States. Today, though, as she goes about her daily life as a transfer student studying biology at Le Moyne and working in a variety of roles at Crouse Hospital, she says Afghanistan is never far from her mind or her heart. She closely followed the news reports of 3.5 million Afghans forced to flee their homes due to insecurity and violence, including an estimated 600,000 people displaced inside the country this year alone, and knew that she had to do whatever she could to assist in humanitarian efforts to provide them with the basic necessities – food, clothing and shelter.

"Helping other people gives me strength," says Tajik, who also spoke at a recent candlelight vigil in honor of the people of Afghanistan. "If someone falls down, I can't just sit back and watch. I have to help that person stand up again. That makes me

happy. That gives me the strength. It lets me know that I am capable of making a difference in the lives of others."

Tajik and her family made this commitment to the people of Afghanistan even in the midst of their own profound grief. This past spring her father, who returned to the nation and was a member of the Afghan National Guard, was killed by the Taliban. His memory, and his commitment to his fellow countrymen, serves as a source of inspiration to Tajik. So does his belief in the power of education. Tajik recalled his enthusiastic support of her dream to become a cardiovascular surgeon, particularly given that, according to the World Health Organization, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in Afghanistan. Today she is a member of the College's Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program and stays closely connected with Le Moyne's Health Professions Advisory Committee, both of which play a vital role in preparing students for graduate programs in the health sciences.

And as the nation prepares to welcome more Afghan families to the United States in the coming weeks and months, Tajik acknowledges that her work is not done yet.

"I know that things look messy in Afghanistan and around the world, but knowing that there is a tomorrow gives me hope," she says. "Knowing that I have the power, the strength and the ability to help others gives me hope. Being a doctor or being successful at anything in life is not about the grades you get in class or how hard you study. It's about the challenges life throws at you and how you respond to them."

## SundayPlaybook

**"It is the size of one's will which determines success"**

- Anonymous

One of my former coaches once shared the story of Shelley Mann, a competitive swimmer who contracted polio at just 6 years old. Despite being left with a paralyzed right leg, Mann went on to win gold at the 1956 Summer Olympics. This powerful story is the epitome of strength, willpower, determination and an unwavering desire to overcome odds.



Mann's story continues to resonate with me today as I believe it is widely applicable to college athletics. Being a Le Moyne student-athlete allows us to be part of something meaningful, something bigger than ourselves. Mann's story emphasizes the importance of living in the present moment and being mindful of how we choose to respond to adversity.

For every student-athlete, our mental and physical skills are undoubtedly put to the test, but it is important not to let setbacks and limitations define who we are. Mann's story also serves as a reminder to embrace practices and competitions with tenacity, gratitude and heart. As student-athletes, we have the unique privilege to do what we love every day.

Participating in athletics teaches invaluable lessons, preparing us for life far beyond our athletic careers. Our time spent on the Heights, competing in our respective sports, is limited. Choosing to embrace the role of a student-athlete with a positive mindset, can make all the difference.

**Meghan McKeen '22**  
Women's Golf



## Greatness meets Goodness &gt; PRIDE IN OUR PRESENT



**CULTIVATING A GARDEN – AND A COMMUNITY** | For Jason Luscier, Ph.D., there are few things more Ignatian than a community garden. It connects people to the earth, provides nourishment, and engages with and serves the community. An associate professor of biological sciences, Luscier is eager to use Le Moyne's new community garden, which was established last summer behind St. Mary's Hall, in the General Ecology course he is teaching in the fall of 2022 as part of a segment on food ecology. Luscier's students will spend several days visiting and engaging with the garden, and he hopes that it will serve as a way for them to "gain a deeper understanding of where food comes from and connect with nature."



And that is just the start.

Luscier also plans to develop a class that will specifically connect students to the garden for an entire semester, immersing them in all aspects of it, from growing seedlings in late winter through harvesting crops in the fall. He'd also like to have students engage with other community gardens and food banks in the area to develop a deeper understanding of food insecurity in the greater Syracuse area and the role community gardening can play in serving the community. His colleague, Associate Professor of Biology Hilary McManus, Ph.D., also plans to utilize the garden in her botany and environmental issues classes, demonstrating how people can reconnect with nature and nurture biodiversity while growing their own food.

The idea of creating a community garden was born during a sustainability-themed retreat, which included dozens of members of the Le Moyne community. After trading a range of ideas on how best to

improve the College's environmental footprint, the participants zeroed on the establishment of a garden as one that was both impactful and educational. With the aid of professionals from the College's Physical Plant, they then began scouting possible locations and, after deciding on the area behind St. Mary's, began building the raised beds and erecting a fence before finding themselves up to their elbows in soil and mulch. The result? A 700-square-foot garden with more than 200 square feet for planting. It will be divided into smaller 3-by-4 or 3-by-6 plots that are available for adoption by members of the Le Moyne community, with the goal of opening the garden to the wider community in the future, explained Dan Roche, Ph.D., associate professor of communications, who helped design the garden.

"There are so many students who don't know much about gardening or where their food comes from and this will be a vivid way for them to get their hands

dirty – weeding, picking vegetables and preparing the food," Roche said. "The garden is meant to address big philosophical concerns about care for the environment on a much more practical level. It could be students going out there and diving into concepts for a natural science class or sociology class, or using the space to inspire their work in a creative writing or photography class. The possibilities are endless."

Brooke Merrifield '17, M.S. '19, associate director for annual giving, who assisted in the creation of the garden, echoed those sentiments, noting that it calls to mind what Pope Francis expressed in his environmental encyclical, *Laudato si'*.

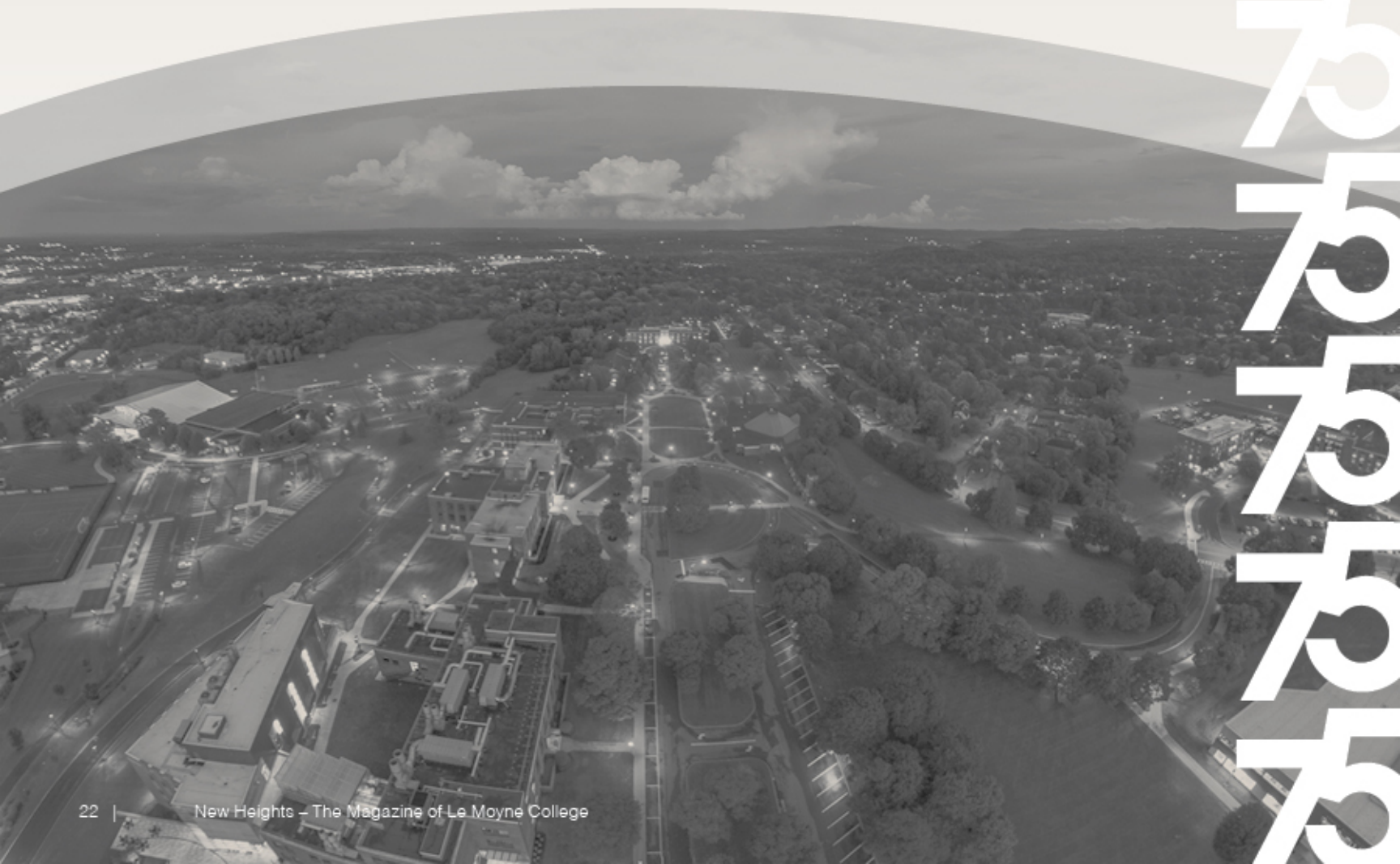
"For me and a lot of other people it's about reconnecting with the earth and doing the work to turn the tide in a positive direction for this wonderful place that we call home," she said.

By Molly K. McCarthy

Members of the community garden committee Jason Luscier and Dan Roche (top) construct the raised beds for the individual plots. (left) The garden was set up near St. Mary's Hall in June 2021; and (right) Jason Luscier, Ph.D., Brooke Merrifield '17, M.S. '19 and Joe Della Posta help harvest the crop to be donated to the community.



# Confidence in Our Future





**“... the best leaders work extremely hard for and with others.”**

**GO FORTH AND LEAD** | There are few things that Jonathan Damiani, Ph.D., loves more than engaging with young people on the topic of leadership. This is, after all, the generation that will take the lead in addressing some of the world's most pressing issues, from climate change to income inequality. Damiani is a teacher in the College's Doctorate in Executive Leadership Program. One strand of his research examines how 17- to 23-year-olds perceive leadership, aspire to leadership positions, and whether or not they believe they can achieve leadership roles. Damiani encourages young people to ask themselves thoughtful, probing questions about leadership, including: What do you believe makes a good leader? When did you first take on a leadership role? And what are some of the assumptions you might hold about leadership based on its portrayal in media and popular culture? He hopes that their answers to these questions will enable them to better understand who they are in relation to others, which is critical to developing their capacity to lead.



their schools. That realization led Damiani to begin studying how experiences shape leadership identity and aspirations.

Over the course of his life, Damiani has come to believe that “leadership is a much more dynamic process” than people often understand and that “the best leaders work extremely hard for and with others.” They undertake important emotional labor and know that leadership cannot be understood without considering the thoughts, feelings and attitudes of the people around them. Great leaders, he has found, are passionate and authentic, persuasive rather than coercive.

As for what it will take to nurture future leaders, Damiani believes that the first step is to start early, to teach young people that being a leader is not contingent upon traits such as socioeconomic status, but on an individual's understanding of various backgrounds, experiences and ideas about leadership. That way, the members of the next generation won't have to wait for someone to tell them to be leaders. They can enter the world as leaders.

“Leadership isn't swapping your ‘old self’ out for a better one,” Damiani says. “It is acknowledging your own strengths and weaknesses and building on what is already there.”

The Doctorate in Executive Leadership prepares professionals in education, business and healthcare to become dynamic, transformative leaders. Students in the program learn to design and implement socially responsible change, and to create solutions that will positively impact their organizations. Through their work, they reflect the Jesuit ideals of promoting a just society and serving their communities as men and women for others.

For more information on Damiani's leadership teaching and research, please reach out to him directly at [thomsojd@lemoyne.edu](mailto:thomsojd@lemoyne.edu).

Email [gradadmission@lemoyne.edu](mailto:gradadmission@lemoyne.edu) for information on the Executive Leadership Program.

Damiani's work is motivated in part by his desire to help local leaders interested in improving the work they are already doing in the Central New York community where he grew up and to which he recently returned with his family. Damiani has taught and conducted research at schools

in the U.S. and overseas, and has witnessed firsthand the ways in which the environments school leaders seek to create are not always the same as those the students are experiencing simply because students' perspectives of leadership are rarely considered in the agendas set by leadership in



## Greatness meets Goodness &gt; CONFIDENCE IN OUR FUTURE

# Freedom Reads



Tyler Sperrazza '13 admires the unique way in which books connect people, especially in cases when having read the same novel, biography or collection of poetry is the one thing they have in common. Sperrazza marvels at the way reading unites people across political, religious and cultural divides and invites them to bring something of themselves to the story before them. For the Le Moyne alumnus, the question "What are you reading?" can serve as a shorthand for: Who are you? What interests you? How do you come at the world? In that respect, his view of reading is not that different from that of 18th century British author Samuel Johnson, who wrote, "A writer only begins a book. A reader finishes it."

Sperrazza has been thinking about the impact books have on relationships and the world since recently being named production and program coordinator at Freedom Reads. A nonprofit organization based at the Justice Collaboratory at Yale University, Freedom Reads seeks to establish 1,000 500-volume libraries at prisons around the country over the next few years. The organization is the brainchild of Reginald Dwayne Betts, who Freedom Reads' website says "knows firsthand the dispiriting forces of prison." Betts has said that a turning point in his life came when someone slipped a copy of *The Black Poets* underneath the door of his cell. Today the entire team at Freedom Reads is committed to helping the approximately 2 million Americans who are currently incarcerated use books as a starting point to reimagine their lives. They also intend to start dialogues with those working at the prisons, particularly corrections officers.

In his new role at Freedom Reads, Sperrazza oversees the planning and installation of the libraries; coordinates a team of research assistants; produces a podcast; meets with donors, fabricators, architects, prison officials and artists; and personally tours prison facilities to make new libraries a reality. He also serves as the touring production manager for the one-man theatrical performance ("Felon: An American Washi Tale") that accompanies library installations into the prisons, and is performed

in traditional theaters and university spaces, and at corporate events to promote the project. The broad-based liberal arts education he received at Le Moyne helped him bring a number of unique experiences to this work. In addition to earning a dual degree in history and theatre arts, he participated in the College's Integral Honors Program and was a regular fixture at the W. Carroll Coyne Center for the Performing Arts, acting in plays and musicals and designing the lighting for numerous College productions. He went on to earn a doctorate in history and African American and diaspora studies at Pennsylvania State University, where he also taught and remained involved in theatre production. Communicating, multitasking and team building are his tools of the trade.

Freedom Reads has, in Sperrazza's words, "real start-up energy." The days are long; the work rewarding; the responsibility to succeed shared. The members of the team have titles, yes, but they don't stand on ceremony. When a conversation unfolds about the organization's mission and future, everyone is given an equal opportunity to have his or her voice heard. Likewise, when a few hundred books need to be packed and shipped, they all find themselves standing side-by-side, happily filling boxes. (Betts calls Sperrazza in particular the "Swiss Army knife" of the team.)

And that utility is what Sperrazza loves most about the job. It combines a passion for reading (natural for any history major), for social justice, and, because Freedom Reads has a component in which stories are performed live, for theatre. It is, in essence, a number of compelling jobs in one. For Sperrazza, being able to place books in the hands of people whose futures may be changed by them is the professional opportunity of a lifetime.

It presents him with the chance to shape how people use their time in prison in ways that change the trajectory of their lives after they return home. It also, Sperrazza has discovered, "humanizes an experience that can often be dehumanizing."

"It's work that is perfectly suited for someone from Le Moyne," he says.

By Molly K. McCarthy





## The Future of Medicine



Medicine revolves around the relationship between patient and caregiver. It is, and will remain, a deeply personal field. The opportunity to connect with others is what draws many people to it. Matt Civilette '18 says that while that focus on human interaction will never change, the future of medicine will also be shaped by the rapid growth of artificial intelligence (A.I.). A naval officer and fourth-year student at the Georgetown University School of Medicine, Civilette envisions an era in which A.I. can be used to crunch the thousands of data points available to doctors for the people in their care. Such valuable information could be used to predict, for example, whether an individual is likely to develop renal disease so that it can be treated before it progresses to the point where he or she needs a kidney transplant. Civilette, who plans on a career in orthopedics, has already witnessed the ways in which robots help guide surgeons conducting knee replacements so that they can provide the patient with the best possible outcome and extend the lifetime of the prosthetic. In short, Civilette says, the increasingly digital era in which we live is changing what we thought we knew about medicine, breaking down barriers between patient and clinician, and increasing the access to potentially life-saving information.



Dan Kelly (below) gives a talk about his research on the impact of autonomous vehicles (above illustration by kirill-tonkikh).

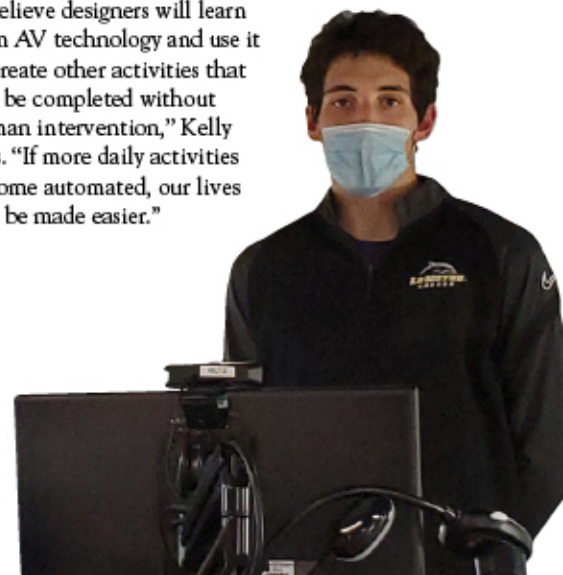
What happens when the car you're riding in is also your driver? That question rings loudly and persistently in the ears of Dan Kelly '24. A dual major in accounting and information systems, Kelly studies the impact of autonomous vehicles (AVs) on both safety and infrastructure. As a McDevitt Information Systems Research Fellow, he collaborates with the chief information officer at General Motors, Stacy Lynett. It is certainly a fascinating time to be doing this work. AVs are expected to play a critical role in the future of travel, with more than 40 companies, including GM, Samsung, Hyundai and Tesla, developing the necessary technology.

Kelly first learned about various kinds of autonomous systems in Introduction to Management Information Systems taught by McDevitt Distinguished Chair in Information Systems Martha Grabowski, Ph.D. However, he was especially fascinated by the idea there could exist "a self-driving car capable of bringing you to your destination." Through his research Kelly discovered that AVs offer numerous additional benefits beyond mere convenience and Jetsons-like novelty. They could reduce and eventually eliminate crashes and the resulting injuries and deaths caused by driver error.

There are of course issues to be resolved before AVs move from being a curiosity to commonplace. Perhaps the chief among them is that it will

take time for people to become comfortable and confident relying on self-driving cars. However, Kelly believes that the establishment of so-called "mixed-use highways" (with some lanes dedicated to AVs and others dedicated to human-driven vehicles) could go a long way toward promoting their acceptance and adoption. He has no doubt that autonomous technology will play a critical role in shaping how people make their way around their communities. But he doesn't believe it will end there.

"I believe designers will learn from AV technology and use it to create other activities that can be completed without human intervention," Kelly says. "If more daily activities become automated, our lives will be made easier."





**Greatness meets Goodness** > CONFIDENCE IN OUR FUTURE

**ERIE21: UNLOCKING THE FUTURE** | As the bell rang and thousands of Syracuse City School District (SCSD) students packed their bookbags, gave their lockers a final check and raced toward busses to head home, a few set their sights on the heights. The Le Moyne Heights. Their school day extended into a collegiate setting, empowering them to plant roots for their future growth in higher education and beyond.



This small snapshot of the end of a Central New York school day is part of a much bigger picture for some members of Le Moyne College's ERIE21 program. Founded in the summer of 2018, ERIE21 aims to address our region's twin challenges of concentrated urban poverty and the inability of employers to attract and retain the skilled workers needed to fill current job openings.

Serving as both a comprehensive and long-term strategy, ERIE21 delivers early scholastic intervention in middle school and provides ongoing support to students in high school and college, as well as to adults, to strengthen the region's capacity to generate home-grown talent to feed the growing demand for computational, software and engineering expertise.

The program's namesake, the Erie Canal, catapulted Syracuse into an era of unparalleled economic growth in the 19th century by unleashing an unprecedented expansion of commerce. ERIE21 holds great potential for sustainable positive impact, through education programs designed to prepare residents for jobs in the innovation economy. It was only fitting to segment the ERIE21 program into "locks" just like the canal and provide certain levels of care to specific sectors of career-bound individuals.

The first phase of the program – Lock 1 – begins with an on-campus Quantitative Thinking Village for the youngest members of ERIE21, rising SCSD sixth through eighth graders. These math- and science-driven middle schoolers are intro-

duced to the field of coding. They participate in hands-on engineering activities, are exposed to the basics of web design and learn the foundations of the block program Scratch. They hone these skills throughout the academic year on campus, enabling them consistent skill reinforcement.

Lock 2 offers tech-based experiences and programming for high school students in an effort to equip and empower them with the tools they need to graduate and thrive in college and careers. They're offered academic support, tutoring, customized personal learning plans, a college advising system centered on placing students into New York State Collegiate Opportunity Programs, networking leads with industry experts, career advising, community service activities,

(above) President Linda LeMura displays the model plane given to her by a group of ERIE21 students.



## Greatness meets Goodness &gt; CONFIDENCE IN OUR FUTURE



(above, clockwise from top left) A student from Look1 works on a computer graphic, a student receives instruction, two students show off their projects, Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh talks with students about their ERIE21 project.

family engagement and more.

Recruitment for Lock 3 begins before Dolphins set foot on campus. The ERIE21 team works with the Enrollment and Financial Aid offices to recruit a diverse group of students who need significant financial aid. The current cohort consists of 100-plus students of different majors who are defining their own paths in tech-related fields. While students can also enter Lock 3 at various points throughout their Le Moyne journey, a Learning Community is exclusively offered to a select number of first-year students, providing them the opportunity to reside near one another in a residence hall and share key coursework.

Lock 4 caps off the program by

delivering services, including custom-tailored clinics, Le Moyne certificate programs and career training. Utilizing community-based settings such as libraries, community centers and the Le Moyne campus, Lock 4 creates space to strengthen the computational foundations needed to compete for technology-based jobs in the region.

"ERIE21 embodies what it means to be people for and with others, which is a key principle of a Jesuit education," says Amanda Miles '10, ERIE21 director. "We are opening up doors and pathways to careers that many participants wouldn't otherwise have been able to access, or even consider, and we are walking right alongside them as they do it."

Miles and her colleagues are aligned with the Jesuits' teachings to be Contemplatives in Action – to not only identify and reflect on social problems, but to act on them. Miles says, "The program is rising quickly and we want to prove that our work matters, and that what we do is indispensable. Once we do that here in our own community, we are looking to expand beyond upstate New York."

With a strong mission to mitigate concentrated urban poverty and nourish the Syracuse technology job market, ERIE21 is poised to *unlock the future!*

By Danielle Murray



# Dolphin Stories

## LEAP OF FAITH

It was a leap, but fortunately, it was not one Father Dennis Walker '10 had to make alone.

A Syracuse native, Father Walker earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master's degree in business administration from Le Moyne. He went on to work as an auditor, first for Onondaga County and then for the state of New York. By almost any measure, he was successful. He earned a good living and was well-liked by his co-workers. But about four years into his career he began to ask himself a series of serious and probing questions, including: Is this what I want to do with my life and, more importantly, is this what God wants me to do with it?

Faith has always been central for Father Walker. As a child, he was a communicant and an altar server at Saint James, now Our Lady of Hope. Some members of the parish community even wondered aloud if he might become a priest one day. However, it wasn't until after he graduated from the College that he grew to appreciate "just how beautiful and comprehensive" his faith is and that God was calling him to something else. And so, in 2015, after a great deal of prayer and reflection, the Le Moyne alumnus gave up his apartment and most of



Father Dennis Walker '10 (right) is joined by Bishop of the Diocese of Syracuse Douglas J. Lucia during a Mass celebrating the Le Moyne graduate's ordination as a priest.

his furniture and entered Saint Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Md. He was recently ordained in the Diocese of Syracuse and, in his own words, is "no longer living for a paycheck, but to be a servant to God, His people and His Church." Father Walker is the parochial vicar of St. Rose of Lima Church in North Syracuse and St. Margaret's Church in Mattydale.

"It was a risk," he says of the decision to leave his job and enter the priesthood. "But one thing I am calling to mind right now is that risks are sometimes worth taking. The experience of giving my life to God has been one of greatest, and most surreal, of my life."

Father Walker sees his new role as that of "being an evangelist in every sense of the word." That means presenting the Gospel in its truest form,

particularly to those who may not have heard it, and being a conduit of God's mercy. He credits his time at Le Moyne with helping to prepare him for this work because it taught him to be "adaptable and prepared, a constant student, and someone who is always open to the will of God." After all, when he entered the College, he thought he knew exactly which path he would take, not knowing that the Lord would be nudging him in a different direction. But now he is exactly where he needs to be.

"I am here for the service of people, whether it is visiting the sick, celebrating funeral Masses, or attending to general parish life," he says. "That is my identity, and everything else flows from that." ☺

by Molly K. McCarthy



## GREAT SPORTS



Bishop Ludden Junior-Senior High School held its inaugural sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony this summer at the Syracuse Marriott Downtown. Among those who were inducted were Le Moyne graduates (top) **Phil Harlow '73** and (bottom) **Len Rauch '91**, recognized for their contributions to basketball and baseball respectively.

## REPLAY THAT!



**Christopher Gariglio '12** of Baldwinsville, N.Y., is a sports television replay operator for ESPN and a variety of other networks. He recently worked on the Summer Olympics held in Tokyo.

## 1957

**Charles Brennan** of Voorhees, N.J., and his wife, Helen, recently became great-grandparents to twin girls, Evie and Lulu.

## 1963

**Jane Breschard-Wilson** of Boston, Mass., has been named president of the board of trustees of Hale Barnard Services, an independent living center providing exceptional residential and supportive services for a diverse older population. Breschard-Wilson recently completed a two-year term as president of the West End Civic Association, and is a new trustee for the West End Museum.

## 1964

**John Romano** of Saint Paul, Minn., received the 2020 Best Paper Award from the *Journal of Prevention and Health Promotion* and Sage Publishing for his paper, "Politics of Prevention: Reflections from the COVID-19 Pandemic."

## 1965

**Janet (Storinge) White** of Cicero, N.Y., is celebrating 50 years of business for the company she and her husband founded, White's Auto and Speed Supply.

## 1969

**Linda (Masters) Northrop** of Wexford, Pa., and her husband, Jim, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 26, 2021.

## 1970

**John Zogby** of New Hartford, N.Y., is the founder and senior partner of John Zogby Strategies.

## 1971

**Jerry Kenny** of Howell, N.J., retired in November 2020 after working for 30 years as an occupational therapist.

## 1972

**Rory McMahon** of Plantation, Fla., was interviewed and included in a documentary titled *In the Shadow of 9/11*. A private investigator with more than 45 years of experience, McMahon created an online training program for professional investigators, [iecoit.com](http://iecoit.com).

## 1974

**Thomas Brennan** of Maple Glen, Pa., retired after 45 years in athletic administration with 35 years as an athletics director.



**1995** ▶ **Jennifer (Stanley) Pashley** of Syracuse, N.Y., is the author of *The Watcher*. Goodreads called the book "a searing literary noir about what it means to live on the margins of society and what happens when no one is watching."

**2007** ▶ **Amanda (Ryan) McHugh** of Schenectady, N.Y., wrote a domestic-suspense novel titled *Chloe Cates Is Missing*. It will be released Jan. 18, 2022.

If you would like to join the Le Moyne Online Alumni Book Club, see page 36 for details.



# One Moore Bingham

In the midst of the hubbub of move-in day on the Heights, Kate Moore '17, P.A. '18 found herself standing in the entrance of the room belonging to Jon Bingham '18 in Dablon Hall. Kate had a request. She and her roommate wanted to bunk their beds, but they needed a specific frame. Would he mind trading? Jon's father, who was helping his son settle into his new home, assured her he'd be willing to trade. (When Jon later asked his dad why he'd agreed to the furniture swap so quickly, he replied: "I just got you into a cute girl's room on the first day. You're welcome.") About a year later, Kate and Jon began dating.

That eventually led to yet another move, post-graduation, to Rochester, N.Y. It was there, in March of 2019, during a special dinner with both of their families, that Jon proposed. Kate happily accepted. Following a few pandemic-related delays and an intimate civil ceremony in June of 2020, they were married this spring by Bill Dolan, S.J., in the Panasci Family Chapel. Now, as Kate likes to joke, there is "one Moore Bingham," in the world. And it's safe to say that this pair has a lifetime of happily moving and assembling furniture, *together*, ahead of them.

## MAGIC PAIRINGS



## TWICE IN ONE LIFETIME

To say that **Mary Ann (Abend) Donnelly '59** and **Dave Loftus '60** have known each other for their entire lives is a bit of a misnomer. They actually go back further than that. Their mothers played bridge together while they were expecting Mary Ann and Dave, who were born four months apart. The duo grew up together and dated a bit during high school, attending one another's senior balls. By the time they arrived at Le Moyne, though, they were largely involved in their own activities and friendships. After graduation, Mary Ann went on to the Harvard University School of Law, embarking on a career as an attorney and academic, teaching Business Law at Le Moyne for 28 years. Dave joined the Army and went to work for Aetna Life. They built their own lives and families. Decades passed.

In recent years, following the passing of both of their spouses, the two began to reconnect. They found that, some eight decades after they met, they were rediscovering one another in a way that was beautiful and surprising. That led to their nuptials this summer in the Panasci Family Chapel, where they were surrounded by their children, grandchildren and Mary Ann's two great-grandchildren. There was no fretting over flower arrangements or bridesmaids' dresses, Mary Ann said. There was simply a celebration of love and of two people blessed to have found it twice in one lifetime.

# Hearts of Green and Gold

**Mallory Munro '13** and **Matthew Dowgiallo '13** like to say that theirs is a love story 10 years in the making. The pair met as freshmen at Le Moyne, where one day Matt caught Mallory's eye in the cafeteria. From that moment forward, she "was determined to get to know him better and to win over his heart." She did, and he captured her heart as well. Some nine years after they began dating, Matt proposed to Mallory in front of Grewen Hall, on the campus where their journey began.

The duo was married this summer in a ceremony at the Panasci Family Chapel that paid tribute to the place that first brought them together. Robert Scully, S.J., who served as their resident chaplain when Mallory and Matt lived in Foery Hall, performed the ceremony; their wedding colors were green and gold; and their guests were presented with Discraft Ultra-Star frisbees stamped with the

couple's wedding crest, a nod to Matt's role as the founder of Le Moyne's frisbee team. (The groom's cufflinks that day reflected the team's mascot, the Green Goblin.) Making the College a part of their day was the "first and best decision" they made in planning their wedding, Mallory and Matt said. "Le Moyne means so much to us both as individuals and as a couple. We like to think of it as a healthy obsession."





## 1977

**Kris Balderston** of Alexandria, Va., was hired as a strategic partner at ACG Advocacy LLC, one of Washington's premier bipartisan government affairs and strategic consulting firms.

## 1978

**Jim Duncan** of Richmond, Va., retired after more than 40 years as a TV meteorologist, the longest tenure in Richmond history.

**Gabriel Rich, D.D.S.**, of Wilmington, N.C., retired from active practice in April 2021. Rich will serve as a business consultant and teledentist for Harris Whitesell Consulting, providing leadership training to the dental community.

## 1979

**Matthew Babcock** of Watervliet, N.Y., is the principal in compliance solutions for The Bonadio Group.

**Tom Fletcher** of Syracuse, N.Y., won the Central New York PGA 2021 Senior AIM Championship, shooting five under par over the two-day tournament. The tournament is held at both Lakeshore Country Club and Cazenovia Country Club.

## 1983

**Dave Kunzinger** of Norwich, N.Y., is executive director of research quality at Merck in West Point, Pa.

## 1984

**Tim Schmidt** of Syracuse, N.Y., retired as a teacher and coach from Corcoran High School and is now a teacher and coach at Bishop Grimes High School.

## 1985

**Todd Everleth** of Plattsburgh, N.Y., is a teaching assistant at BOCES Plattsburgh. Everleth is also a member of the New York State Baseball Umpires Association. Over the past four years, he has called baseball at all levels and, for the last two years, he has devoted most

of his efforts to the Empire Professional Baseball League based in Tampa, Fla.

**Therese Vita** of Buffalo, N.Y., was named to the *Buffalo Business First's* Power 200 Women of 2021, which recognizes women "whose talent and influence fuel economic, social and cultural growth in the Greater Buffalo region."

## 1986

**Renée Gadoua** of Manlius, N.Y., joined the *National Catholic Reporter (NCR)* as a copy editor. Gadoua is a writer and editor based in Syracuse, N.Y., who focuses on religion, social justice and people. She has written for numerous secular and Catholic outlets, including *Religion News Service*, *The Catholic Sun*, *U.S. Catholic* and *NCR*. Previously a religion reporter for *The Syracuse Post-Standard*, she has won writing awards from the Religion News Association, Catholic Media Association and New York State Associated Press Association.

**Karl Heck** of Franklin, Va., became the president and CEO of Franklin Southampton Economic Development Inc. in Franklin, Va., in August 2021. Heck was previously the director of economic development and planning for Greene County, N.Y., and he retired from that position in July 2021.

## 1987

**Grace (Borreggine) Niland** of West Hartford, Conn., was recently named the new human resources leader at Corning Incorporated after many years with IBM.

**Maureen (Martin) Rossi** of Bethesda, Md., is a learning and support specialist at Our Lady Mercy School.

**Matthew Rossi** of Bethesda, Md., is a shareholder who practices in all areas of securities litigation and government investigations at the law firm of Vedder Price.

## 1989

**Annette Anthony, MBA '95** of Richardson, Texas, received the National Association of Black Accountants Dallas Fort Worth Chapter 2021 Newcomer of the Year Award in recognition of her dedication and outstanding service to the community.

**Sheila Flihan** of Albany, N.Y., was promoted to dean of the School of Public and Human Services for Mohawk Valley Community College.

## 1991

**Todd Corley** of Delaware, Ohio, was named senior vice president of inclusion and sustainability at the American apparel company Carhartt.

## 1992

**Karen (Garcia) Canestrare** of Camillus, N.Y., joined Quadrant Biosciences Inc. as controller and vice president of finance.

**Bart Holstein** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a senior account executive at Northland Communications.

**Brian Kavanagh** of East Syracuse, N.Y., is the principal of Groton Jr./Sr. High School.

## 1993

**Jim Cahill** of Clifton Park, N.Y., received a Legion of Merit and a New York State Conspicuous Service Medal upon his retirement as a colonel from the New York Army National Guard.

**Kevin Hearn** of North Tonawanda, N.Y., is the vice president for enrollment management at Robert Morris University.

## 1994

**Heather Anderson** of Brooklyn, N.Y., is the director of government affairs, FOCUS regional lead, New York, at Gilead Sciences.

**Michelle (Dattellas) Chiantera** of Pittsford, N.Y., is the chief marketing officer at Corel Corporation.

**Tyiesha (Bowden) Ford** of Albany, N.Y., owns Fullness of Joy Photography.

## 1995

**Jeremy Best** of Gansevoort, N.Y., is the principal law clerk to the Hon. David A. Weinstein.

## 1996

**Randi Desiderio** of Parlin, N.J., is a customer relationship manager in direct and digital marketing for Verizon.

**Steve Roehrig** of Penfield, N.Y., is a financial adviser at Novem Group.

## 1997

**Christine (Cantaben) Malvaso** of Pittsford, N.Y., is a human resource business partner at Rochester Regional Health.



**NATIONAL  
ORGANIZATION  
OF FORENSIC  
SOCIAL WORK**

**Lisa Rapp-McCall '89** of Lutz, Fla., was honored by the National Organization of Forensic Social Work with its 2021 Sol Gothard Lifetime Award. The organization praised Rapp-McCall's history of writing, teaching and conducting research in the areas of juvenile crime, child abuse and human trafficking, among other acts of service.





**Craig Doan '98** of Baldwinsville, N.Y., is the senior director of operational accounting at Aspen Dental Management Inc. and the new president of Le Moyne's Dolphin Athletic Association.

## 1998

**Matthew Giacobbi** of Lynnfield, Mass., was promoted to assistant special agent in charge of the Boston Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**Brenda Suhr** of Canandaigua, N.Y., is a physician assistant on the Urgent Care Team at Finger Lakes Health.

## 2000

**Russell Corbin** of Manlius, N.Y., was promoted to director of business development and community engagement at Onondaga Community College.

## 2001

**Christopher Apker** of Cortland, N.Y., was promoted to chief financial officer at HOLT Architects.

**Chris Midgley** of Ellicott City, Md., was promoted to vice president, labor and employee relations at Lockheed Martin.

## 2002

**Thomas Rimmer** of Swansea, Mass., joined KLOWen Orthodontics as senior director of business development. Rimmer collaborates with KLOWen's sales team, marketing team, strategic partners and orthodontists on the creation of competitive concept proposals and new

service offerings based on detailed insights of market and client needs.

## 2003

**James Busco** of North Syracuse, N.Y., was promoted to principal of Mexico High School.

**John Peters** of Norwalk, Conn., is a partnerships manager for cardiology at Alto Pharmacy.

**Christian Schlaerth** of Forest City, Iowa, published a paper titled "Adjuncts Unite! The Struggle to Unionize, Administrative Responses, and Building a Bigger Movement" in the *Labor Studies Journal*. Schlaerth also made a presentation at the 19th annual Conference of International Social Theory on "The Perversion of Populism in the 21st Century," in June 2021.

**Daniel Trebendis** of Chittenango, N.Y., joined the leadership team at ARISE as the director of quality improvement and corporate compliance.

## 2004

**Caitlin Lowie** of Natick, Mass., was hired as vice president, communications and investor relations at Solid Biosciences.

**Brian Potter** of East Syracuse, N.Y., was recognized as a *CNY Business Journal* 40 under Forty award honoree.

## 2005

**Sarah Anson-Orden** of Cicero, N.Y., is a grant writer at The Everson Museum of Art.

**Elizabeth (Marinelli) Gardner** of Camillus, N.Y., was promoted to partner at Grossman St. Amour CPAs PLLC. Gardner joined the accounting firm in 2005 and works in its Tax Services Group.

**Laura (Gosiewski) Reynolds** of Penfield, N.Y., was named assistant principal of Victor Early Childhood School.

**Kathryne Sparaco** of East Syracuse, N.Y., is an administrative assistant for the vicar general, chancellor, vicar of religious and synodal planning, and director of facilities for the Diocese of Syracuse.

**Timothy Strong** of Endicott, N.Y., was recognized as a *CNY Business Journal* 40 under Forty award honoree.

## 2006

**Lena Adely** of Yonkers, N.Y., is the senior associate director of international admission at Sarah Lawrence College.

**Liz (Schylinski) McCafferty** of DeWitt, N.Y., is a digital copy editor for Tarakeet.

**Matthew Winters** of Marcellus, N.Y., opened a new business, Hometown Pizzeria Syracuse, in Syracuse.

## 2007

**Andrew Brenner** of Washington, D.C., is a senior vice president at Marathon Strategies LLC., an independent public relations firm.

**Elizabeth (Urciuoli) Cominoli** of Syracuse, N.Y., started a law firm with her law partner called Markert & Cominoli PLLC.

**Joshua R. Mraz** of Bel Air, Md., is a licensed insurance broker with Symmetry Financial Group, where he has worked since August 2021. Mraz is currently licensed in Colorado, Maryland, North Carolina, South Dakota,

Texas and Virginia. He works with top-rated carriers to find the best coverage and pricing to fit his clients' needs.

**Erin Sheevers** of Delmar, N.Y., is the chief technology officer of Bethlehem School District.

## 2009

**Zach Adams** of Liverpool, N.Y., is the vice president of strategy for Drive Research.

**Betsy Bubnack** of Syracuse, N.Y., was promoted to finance and business operations senior manager at Sikorsky.

**Naomi (Birch) Mehmedovic, FNP '20**, of Liverpool, N.Y., is a family nurse practitioner at Family Practice Associates.

**Ellen (Nason) Simmons** of Charlestown, Mass., is the director of development at Ronald McDonald House Charities of New England.

**Bethany (Piraino) VanBenschoten** of Westmoreland, N.Y., is an assistant director for leaders at Utica College.

## 2010

**Brittany Apps** of Camillus, N.Y., is a manager in the audit and accounting department at Dermody, Burke & Brown CPAs, LLC.

**Jennifer (Dickquist) Feeney** of Pittsburgh, Pa., founded a law firm that is celebrating five years in business. The firm launched an education and outreach arm that focuses on teaching clients which portions of their cases they can handle themselves and how to lower their cost of litigation. The firm has also established a filing-fee fund for those who cannot afford such fees but do not qualify for assistance.

**Durett Miles** of Schenectady, N.Y., was named transportation director of City School District of Albany.

**Chelsea Gregory** of Chicago, Ill., is the director of event marketing at SAPinsider.

Continued on Page 35



# Reunion Reflections

Retracing steps you took as a student. Spending time with dear friends who became like family. Marveling at all that has changed since your graduation – and feeling gratitude for the truly important things that somehow never will. All of that is part of going Home to the Heights for reunion. As the College celebrates its 75th anniversary, three Dolphins share stories of what this special weekend means to them. **Save the date for reunion: June 3-5, 2022!**

## Simply Be



When Mike Milito '77 returned to campus to celebrate his fifth class reunion in 1982, not much had changed. But by the time he returned for his 10th, the campus looked and felt different. That is certainly part of the experience of returning to your alma mater, witnessing how things have shifted in ways both big and small. And as Milito noted, Reunion itself has gone through some modifications. There are fewer formal dinners and speeches and more colorful food trucks and long conversations among friends. Alumni still have ample opportunity to engage in events like faculty lectures and a 5K race, but there is also more time to simply to be, to throw a frisbee on the quad or take a walk along the reservoir. As a current member and former president of the Alumni Association Board, Milito is already looking forward to this year's Reunion, his 45th. Not only will it mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the College, but it will also serve as an opportunity for friends to reconnect. To that end, Milito offered his fellow Dolphins the following challenge: "Let's make this the largest Reunion ever."

## Connecting Means Something

Jane Breschard-Wilson '63 is a proud Le Moyne alumna and a self-identified *reunion junkie*. Breschard-Wilson has faithfully attended Le Moyne's reunions as often as possible, and believes they have only become more special since celebrating her 50th. "Being a Golden Dolphin means you and your classmates have a strong connection to one another and to the College. And in an age where so much connection is electronic, there's nothing better than being able to gather and reminisce in person," she says. The founder of Boston Women Communicators, Breschard-Wilson was honored with the College's Distinguished Alumna Award in 2008. In her role as a member of the College's Alumni Association Board, she helped plan and host events for graduates, first in Manhattan, and later in Boston. She anticipates enjoying future reunions, and having an opportunity to model for future generations of Dolphins (hopefully her grandchildren now 10-, 12- and 14-years-old) the importance of remaining connected to your alma mater.



Jane Breschard-Wilson '63 (left) with President Linda LeMura, Ph.D.

## You Lived Like a Dolphin

A successful Reunion Weekend is one that triggers good memories – of conversations with friends and faculty members, of snowfalls that gave way to sledding competitions, and of Dolphy Day celebrations that brought the campus community outdoors to enjoy the sunshine and the unofficial start of spring. Few people know this better than Mecca Marsh '99, Ed.D. Marsh sees Reunion Weekend through the dual lens of alumna and higher education professional. She is the chair of the Multicultural Committee of the Alumni Association Board and director of housing operations of Bethune Annex and Cafe on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. Marsh knows that while recruitment, matriculation and retention are critical to a college's growth and success, so is the cultivation of a dedicated, involved base of alumni. Reunion is central to that. Her message to her fellow Dolphins is simple: Give back and come back, particularly when your class is celebrating a reunion. And remember that for a time you lived as a Dolphin.



Mecca Marsh '99, Ed.D., stands between Linda LeMura, Ph.D., (left), and her mother, Johnnie Hill-Marsh, (right), who directed Le Moyne's Higher Education Preparation Program and Upward Bound Program for nearly 30 years.





Photo Credit: Major League Baseball

# Meaningful Meals

Baseball is a team sport in more ways than one. It brings people together, not only to enjoy America's pastime, but to support their communities in the face of tremendous need and, sometimes, tragedy. It is no surprise then that this fall, as Americans solemnly marked the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks, those at Major League Baseball rolled up their sleeves to take part in a National Day of Service in honor of those who lost their lives that day. They included Commissioner Robert Manfred Jr., who attended Le Moyne and received an honorary degree from the College in 2010, and Senior Vice President for Marketing Barb McHugh Marino '01, who serves on the College's board of trustees, along with Colleen Manfred '80, also a member of the College's board of trustees. Along with former members of the Mets and the Yankees, they spent the day packing meals for City Harvest, New York's largest food rescue organization.

## Alumni Achievements

### YOUNG INNOVATOR



**2018 ▶ Veronica Ung-Kono** of Morrisville, Vt., graduated from Vermont Law School with a juris doctorate and a master's degree in energy regulation and law. Ung-Kono is now a solar innovators fellow partnered with the Vermont Public Utility Commission, assisting hearing officers and the commissioners in rulemaking, the permitting of solar arrays and utility rate cases. She is a member of the Emerging Leaders Cohort of the Cancer Free Economy Network, which seeks solutions to erase cancer and other diseases, as well as a volunteer for both the Le Moyne College Multicultural Alumni Committee and Young Alumni Committee.

### TEACHER AND ROLE MODEL



**2021 ▶ Bryan Tran** of Endicott, N.Y., was selected by Kappa Delta Pi and the Association of Teacher Educators as the recipient of the 2021 KDP/ATE National Student Teacher/Intern of the Year Award.



## Love & Marriage

**Coleen Pepe '94** to Andrew Call

**Daniel Anderson '00** to Meghan Kennedy

**Adam Bushey '04** to Jodi Chan

**Matthew McCoy '06** to Caroline Tisdell '12

**Kelly Attridge '07** to Kathleen Maurer



**Amanda Keegan '07** to Chris Montes (above)

**Dan McCarthy '07** to Elizabeth Camp



**Kari Litteer '13** to Cameron Peacock (above)

**Christopher J. Lefever '15** to Terri Anne Willman '15

**John Hornbarger '16** to Sarah Watson

**Daniel Mead '18** to Alyssa Baker '18

**Daniel Rosenbaum** of Schenectady, N.Y., was promoted to chief financial officer at Macaran Printed Products.

### 2011

**John Harmatuk** of Fayetteville, N.Y., is a registered investment adviser for Pinnacle Investments LLC.

**Alen Jusic** of Liverpool, N.Y. was recognized as a *CNY Business Journal* 40 under Forty award honoree.

**David Mariano** of Liverpool, N.Y., was hired as a senior director of access and ability at the YMCA of Central New York.

### 2012

**Luke Baker** of Williamsville, N.Y., is the technical director at Academy of Theatre Arts. The company is owned by alumna Dina (Sarno) Slawson '86.

### 2013

**Kari Litteer** of Phoenix, Ariz., is a development manager with Jews United for Justice in the Washington, D.C./Baltimore area.

**Nick Tryniski** of Baldwinsville, N.Y., was promoted to vice president, credit manager at Pathfinder Bank.

### 2014

**Mark DeAngelis** of Syracuse, N.Y., was recognized as a *CNY Business Journal* 40 under Forty award honoree.

**Matthew Fantacone** of Syracuse, N.Y., was promoted to tax manager at Fust Charles Chambers LLP.

**Samuel Lyons** of Syracuse, N.Y., joined the board of directors at LAUNCH.

**Joshua Paduano** of Brewerton, N.Y., is a social media manager at ABC Creative Group.

### 2015

**Jessica Geary** of New York, N.Y., was promoted to business consulting manager at Ernst & Young LLP.

**Beatriz Haces** of Liverpool, N.Y., was promoted to senior accountant at Bowers and Company CPAs.

**Brandon Johnson** of Syracuse, N.Y. was recognized as a *CNY Business Journal* 40 under Forty award honoree.

**Mark Temnycky** of Washington, D.C., was selected as one of the recipients of the Ukrainian World Congress's inaugural Ukrainian Diaspora 30 Under 30 award.

**Stephanie (Clary) Woodard** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a technical specialist, material operations at Bristol Myers Squibb.

### 2016

**Nicholas Agrippino III** of Manlius, N.Y., was promoted to tax manager at Bowers and Company CPAs.

**Sarah Hanley, M.S.Ed. '20** of Liverpool, N.Y., is a special education teacher in the Syracuse City School District.

**Brigid Heslin** of Syracuse, N.Y., is the director of team services for the Syracuse Crunch.

**Anthony Maggi** of North Syracuse, N.Y., was promoted to senior human resources generalist at Rapid Response Monitoring in Syracuse, N.Y.

**Claire Monnat** of Baldwinsville, N.Y., is a physician assistant with the Neurosciences Department at Crouse Hospital.

**Kim-Anh Pham** of Minoa, N.Y., joined Syracuse Community Health Center Inc. as a school-based health center nurse practitioner at Delaware Elementary School.

**Benjamin Verdi** of Buffalo, N.Y., is a grants specialist at Robert J. Miller & Associates in Buffalo, N.Y.

### 2017

**Jodie Carncross, FNP '20** of Fayetteville, N.Y., is a family nurse practitioner at WellNow Urgent Care.

**Danielle McMahon** of Liverpool, N.Y., was promoted to supervisor at Grossman St. Amour CPAs PLLC. McMahon joined the accounting firm in 2018 after completing the Student Internship Program. She works in the Tax Services Group.

**Nicholas Tabone** of East Syracuse, N.Y. is the vice president of BNY Mellon.

### 2018

**Jon Bingham** of Ballston Spa, N.Y., is an accounting specialist at LeChase Construction.

**Chloe Carver, P.A. '19** of Amherst, N.Y., is a physician assistant at the University of Buffalo Neurosurgery.

**Tim Corapi** of Liverpool, N.Y., was promoted to audit senior at Dannible and McKee.

**Hannah Delude** of Herkimer, N.Y., was named junior planner with the Laberge Group. Delude earned a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Albany.



# Alumni Events

There is nothing we enjoy more than our alumni connection – virtually and in person! We encourage you to visit [lemoyne.edu/alumni](http://lemoyne.edu/alumni) to stay in touch with your Dolphin Family. Here are just a few events we look forward to hosting.

Our office shares great information all year long through email. Make sure we have your current email at [alumni@lemoyne.edu](mailto:alumni@lemoyne.edu) so you're in the know about the most current news, announcements, events and opportunities. **Help us help you stay connected!**



## REUNION WEEKEND

**JUNE 3-5, 2022**

There's no better way to celebrate being a Dolphin than by returning to the Heights for Reunion Weekend! Reunion Weekend 2022 is sure to be one of the biggest celebrations the College has ever seen, as we commemorate **the College's 75th Anniversary** and welcome back graduates with class years ending in 0, 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 for a unique celebration honoring the College's wonderful history and community.

**All future communications about reunion will be through email**, so let us know your current email address. Contact us at [alumni@lemoyne.edu](mailto:alumni@lemoyne.edu).



## 9TH ANNUAL DOLPHIN DASH

**SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022**

Join fellow Dolphins and friends for the 9th annual Dolphin Dash, a 5K run/one-mile walk event organized by the Le Moyne College Alumni Association Board.

  [lemoyne\\_alumni](https://www.instagram.com/lemoyne_alumni)

**FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK TO STAY AWARE OF UPCOMING EVENTS AND TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH FELLOW DOLPHINS.**



## GIVING DAY

**MARCH 3, 2022**

Please make a gift to Le Moyne on March 3. Our goal is 2,022 gifts in 24 hours to support our students in the new year and many more to come. Help write the next chapter of Le Moyne's history! [lemoyne.edu/giving](http://lemoyne.edu/giving)



## WEBINAR SERIES

**SELECTED WEDNESDAYS AT NOON**

Le Moyne's popular webinar series, *Insights From the Heights*, has addressed a wide variety of topics, including: service and social justice, budgeting while managing student loan debt, and supporting the environment. For more information, visit: [lemoyne.edu/Alumni/Webinar-Series](http://lemoyne.edu/Alumni/Webinar-Series)



## GOLDEN ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

**MAY 20-22, 2022**

Classes of **1970, 1971, 1972** ... come home to the Heights to celebrate your 50th reunion and reunite with classmates and friends.



## LE MOYNE ONLINE ALUMNI BOOK CLUB

**A NEW BOOK EVERY 10 WEEKS**

Dolphins love to read, as evidenced by Le Moyne's first official alumni book club, which was launched 15 years ago. To add to that, an online club has been added. Visit [pbc.guru/lemoyne](http://pbc.guru/lemoyne) to find out how to join, what books are planned, and for questions.

**THE INPERSON BOOK CLUB** also welcomes new members and finds that, every time it does, the discussion is even better. This past summer the group met at Santangelo's in Liverpool, N.Y. Email [alumni@lemoyne.edu](mailto:alumni@lemoyne.edu) for more information.





**Meghan Dillon** of Syracuse, N.Y., is the assistant to Dan Mastronardi, owner of GFY Events.

**Iryna Gorbachevska** of Syracuse, N.Y. is a neonatal nurse at Crouse Medical Practice LLC.

**Caroline Heavyside, MBA '19** of Syracuse, N.Y., was promoted to supervisor at Grossman St. Amour CPAs PLLC. Heavyside joined the accounting firm in 2019 after completing the Student Internship Program. She works in the company's Audit Services Group and has successfully completed all parts of the CPA exam.

**Carleena Manzi** of Baldwinsville, N.Y., is a donor services specialist at Seattle Repertory Theatre.

**Travis May** of Mount Kisco, N.Y., is a senior analyst at National Grid on the Fleet Asset and Performance Team.

**Demitrius McNeil** of Syracuse, N.Y. was recognized as a *CNY Business Journal* 40 under Forty award honoree.

**Adela Racic** of Utica, N.Y., was promoted to senior accountant at Bowers and Company CPAs.

**Anthony Richards** is the director of basketball operations for men's basketball at the College of the Holy Cross.

## 2019

**Seamus Barry** of Syracuse, N.Y., is staff accountant at SAFE LLC.

**Mason Biggs** of Brewerton, N.Y., is an advertising account executive at Cumulus Media.

**Ryan Delao** of Baldwinsville, N.Y., was promoted to audit senior at Dannible and McKee.

**Justin Gagnon, PA**, of Fresno, Calif., is a physician assistant at Central California Faculty Medical Group.

**Katherine Garrett** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a customer experience manager at Michaels.

**Joshua Hayden** of Brenham, Texas, is a junior high school teacher at Brenham Independent School District.

**Anna Hsu, PA**, of Syracuse, N.Y., is a physician assistant at Trinity Health.

**Michael Lavery** of Manlius, N.Y., is an Oneida Indian Nation Gaming Commission inspector.

**Julia Mayott** of Syracuse, N.Y., is an employment case manager at Liberty Resources Inc.

**Jack Ragonese** of Liverpool, N.Y., is an associate analyst, commercial services at National Grid.

**Kathleen Rowett-O'Neil** of Syracuse, N.Y., is an anchor/producer at iHeartMedia.

**Clemente Rufo** of Cicero, N.Y., is a service desk coordinator for the Le Moyne College Department of Information Technology.

**Stephen Andrew Saleski** of Syracuse, N.Y., joined Sutton Real Estate Company LLC as a property accountant.

**Danielle Schmidt** of Skaneateles, N.Y., is an accounts receivable associate at Pass and Seymour/Legrand.

**Robert Stergas** of Ithaca, N.Y., is an intake assistant at Cornell University.

**Jillian Turlington, PA**, of Cockeysville, Md., is a physician assistant with United Health Services in Binghamton, N.Y.

**Samantha Wendell** of Fort Edward, N.Y., is an assistant regional resource development specialist at Southern Adirondack Independent Living.

**Joe Winsman** of Palatine Bridge, N.Y., was promoted to audit senior at Dannible and McKee.

## 2020

**Garret Anderson** of Auburn, N.Y., is an interventional radiologic technologist at Fresenius Medical Care North America.

**Grace Bachman** of Auburn, N.Y., is a tax accountant at Liberty Mutual Insurance.

**Tyler Bell** of Canajoharie, N.Y., is an associate financial service



**Alana Gonzales '20** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a digital content specialist at Mower, an independent marketing, advertising and public relations firm.

professional at Charles Schwab.

**Christian Boxley** of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., works in customer service, sales at PLOWZ & MOWZ Inc.

**Nathaniel Brands** of Glenmont, N.Y., is in advisory risk consult at KPMG.

**Thomas Brown** of Ellicott City, Md., is a risk analyst at GRF CPAs and Advisors.

**Nicholas Buff** of Latham, N.Y., is an investment associate at the advisory firm Pathstone.

**Allison Cerio** of Manlius, N.Y. is a registered nurse at Crouse Hospital.

**Michael Cimino** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a claims adjuster at the Hartford Insurance Company.

**Olivia Coakley** of Fulton, N.Y., is a project engineer general contractor at Hayner Hoyt.

**Chelsea Collins** of Nedrow, N.Y., is a senior stars improvement clinical professional at Humana Inc.

**Jonathan Crandall Jr.** of Adams, N.Y., is an auditor at insurance company Anthem Inc.

**Erik Deakin** of Buffalo, N.Y., is an electrical tester at Niagara Transformer Corp.

**Edward Deaver** of East Syracuse, N.Y., is a splunk engineer at Evolent Health. Deaver works with a remote team across the United States to ensure the security of the organization.

**Clare Donovan** of Oswego, N.Y., is a classroom teacher in the Oswego City School District.

**Alexander Flack** of Oswego, N.Y., is an operations analyst at BNY Mellon.

**Jacquelyne Ghindia** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a sales representative at Aerie Pharmaceuticals.

**Megan Giamartino** of Rochester, N.Y., is a registered nurse at Central New York Fertility Center.

**Jared Griffin** of Webster, N.Y., is a sales associate at CGI Communications.

**Daniel Harbaugh** of Cicero, N.Y., is a risk advisory associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

**Meghan Hennessey** of Williamsport, Ind., is a grant associate for Indiana University's Office of Research Administration.

**Seth Hoover** of La Fargeville, N.Y., is a data analyst at BNY Mellon.

**Alexys Jacobs** of Sherrill, N.Y., is a tax associate at Fust Charles Chambers LLP.

**Matthew Jordan** of Cicero, N.Y., is a financial analyst at Widewaters Group Inc.

**Lauren Kase** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a junior sales associate at Dynamic Surgical Solutions LLC.

**Casey Kilborne** of Rome, N.Y., is a family nurse practitioner.

**Dori Klein** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a pediatric registered nurse at Brighton Hill Pediatrics.

**Sophia Klemenz** of Fort Worth, Texas, is a social media marketing specialist at Rival Digital.



**Michael Lazzaro** of Clifton Park, N.Y., is a financial adviser trainee at Merrill Lynch.

**Shannon Linehan** of South Glens Falls, N.Y., is a client relations manager at USA Insulation.

**Maria Malone** of Crown Point, N.Y., is a registered nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center.

**Christiana Marotta** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a registered nurse at Crouse Hospital.

**Ana Martinez** of Manlius, N.Y., is a programmer/analyst at SUNY Upstate Medical University.

**Almedina Muminovic** of Clay, N.Y., is an associate at Fust Charles Chambers LLP.

**Haley Oliver** of New Hartford, N.Y., is a teacher at Herkimer Central School District.

**Karen Ortega** of Jamesville, N.Y., is a student success coach at Le Moyne College.

**Kara Pafumi** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a family nurse practitioner at St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center.

**Rebecca Peters** of Foley, Ala., is middle school English teacher at Saint Benedict Catholic School.

**Michaela Pullano** of Syracuse, N.Y., is an associate talent acquisition specialist at JMA Wireless. Pullano received

the 2021 PEB Career Spark Award from the Manufacturers Association of Central New York at Partners for Education and Business Inc.'s 2021 annual awards ceremony.

**Elizabeth Roberts** of Castleton on Hudson, N.Y., is a registered nurse at Albany Medical Center.

**Allison Robinson** of Pittsford, N.Y., is a federal associate data scientist at IBM Corporation.

**Bailey Rose** of Dryden, N.Y., is a staffing consultant at Express Employment Professionals.

**Ethan Sellevold** of Davenport, N.Y., is an operational analyst at BNY Mellon.

**Casandra Serafini** of Liverpool, N.Y., is a service desk coordinator for the Le Moyne College Department of Information Technology.

**Karina Silyuk** of Syracuse, N.Y., is a registered nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center.

**Conner Simpson** of Cleveland, N.Y., is an industrial recruiter at C.R. Fletcher Associates Inc.

**Michael Songer** of Liverpool, N.Y., is the director of faith formation for All Saints Parish in the Catholic Diocese of Syracuse.

**Kerry Sullivan** of South Windsor, Conn., is a registered nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center.



**Ryan Murphy '21** of Fishkill, N.Y., was named the High-A West's Pitcher of the Month for August 2021. Murphy recently joined the Minor League Baseball team the Eugene Emeralds.

**Linda Tran** of Syracuse, N.Y., is an assistant accountant at The Bonadio Group.

**Molly Vadala** of Rochester, N.Y., is an ESL teacher at Rochester City Schools.

**Mya Walters** of Cazenovia, N.Y., is a team leader for AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps.

**Kaitlyn Wheeler, M.S. '21** of Liverpool, N.Y., is the assistant director of alumni and parent engagement at Le Moyne College.

**Charley Zicari** of Lowville, N.Y., is a medical assistant at Genesee Valley Podiatry LLP.

## 2021

**Caden Ackerman** of Cazenovia, N.Y., is the vice president of Keep on Adapting.

**Nate Brower** of Syracuse, N.Y., is teaching and coaching at Manlius Pebble Hill School.

## Share your story or the next issue of *New Heights*!

Sharing your story can make a big difference in other people's lives. Just a paragraph or two is all we need. Share your news or story and photos for inclusion in the alumni magazine at [lemoyne.edu/alumni](http://lemoyne.edu/alumni). Stories can be submitted to Molly McCarthy at [mccartmk@lemoyne.edu](mailto:mccartmk@lemoyne.edu). The magazine submission deadline for the next issue is **April 15**.

*The editorial staff reserves the right to edit for content, accuracy and length. Publication of the achievements of our alumni does not constitute endorsement by Le Moyne College.*

## In Memoriam

Frank B. Reith '51

The Rev. G. Richard Tucker '51

Paul J. Heffron '52

Allan H. Miskell '52

Joseph Pitarelli '52

Terence J. Fay, S.J. '53

Mary (Moran) A. Kinsella '53

Nicholas J. Bourg Jr. '54

Ronald J. Dougherty '54

Paul J. Lynch '54

Pasquale P. Leo '55

Ronald A. Naumann '55

Walter J. Nezda Jr. '56

John V. Roshia Jr. '56

Richard T. A'Hearn '57

Kathleen (Kennedy) Dwyer '57

Catherine (Cosentino) Fantinato '57

Eleanor (Taylor) McGaan '59

Clinton D. Carr '60

Theresa Kociencki '60

Mary Grace (Treglia) Sullivan '60

Wesley J. Tredo '60

Peter C. Cavanaugh '63

Arthur L. Bevacqua '64

Paul. F. Cerio '64

Mary Ellen (Kulba) Colucy '64

Thomas Gulbert '64

Dennis T. Gorski '66

Richard C. FitzPatrick '69

John E. Benda '71

David E. White '71

Marianne (Zdep) Collins '72

Anthony C. Prince '72

Antoinette (Cerame) T. Hazen '73

Michael J. Johnson '74

Joseph A. Foti '82

Stephen P. Water '82

Kevin C. Muller '97

Erik J. Heisler '04

William P. Cloonan '10

David M. Brandon '17





**THE JOY OF SHARING** | John and Marie “Pidge” James, both members of the Class of 1966, are two of the College’s most loyal alumni. Since their graduation, John and Pidge, who met as students on the Heights, have generously given their time, talent and treasure to their alma mater. Both served on the College’s board of trustees, John from 1996 until 2005, including as vice chairman, and Pidge from 2007 until 2010. In addition, they acted as the national co-chairs for the College’s *Achieving New Heights* campaign. John received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2001. The couple received the Simon Le Moyne Award in 2006 and the President’s Medallion in 2019 in recognition of their service as community leaders and volunteers.

**What is your idea of perfect happiness?**

**Pidge:** Every person respecting all other people. I live in hope.

**John:** I agree. And being together on a beautiful fall South Carolina day.

**Which living person do you most admire?**

**Pidge:** I admire Laura Bush for her dignity and especially for her “discipline of the tongue.”

**John:** Pope Francis. He speaks candidly to the human condition and to our shared obligation to address worldwide problems.

**What is the greatest act of generosity you have ever witnessed?**

**Pidge:** Family members accepting the care of extended family.

**John:** In Vietnam I saw villagers helping one another deal with the effects of the war around them, the first time that “community” became real for me.

**Do you think philanthropy is learned or born in people?**

**Pidge:** I think that seeing care for others modeled can inspire imitation.

**John:** I think it is learned, perhaps even by being the recipient.

**What is your most treasured possession?**

**Pidge:** Apple devices because they read to me as my vision fails.

**John:** Mine was my mint-condition,



Marie “Pidge” and John James (center) were surrounded by friends and family when they received the President’s Medallion in 2019.

20-year-old Porsche, which is now my son’s most treasured possession.

**What is your most marked characteristic?**

**Pidge:** Decisiveness.

**John:** Persistence.

**What is something you wish more people understood about what it means to be generous?**

**Pidge:** That it is joyful to share.

**John:** That it feels good and that we have an obligation to share with others.

**What is your personal motto?**

**Pidge:** The first duty of love is to listen. (Philosopher Paul Tillich)

**John:** Never give up.

**What characteristic do you most admire in other people?**

**Pidge:** Patience.

**John:** The ability to listen to others.





# Conservation — THROUGH — Education

Mikael-Ann Melfi '22 grew up in Clayton, N.Y., along the majestic and behemoth St. Lawrence River. To say that her surroundings left an impression on Melfi would be an understatement. This environmental science systems major has long had a passion for ecology, but that passion was magnified by the fact that the nearly 746-mile-long river connecting the Great Lakes system to the Atlantic Ocean runs through her backyard. This summer, the St. Lawrence became the site of much of Melfi's work as the inaugural Kenneth Deedy Environmental Steward. She collaborated with three local nonprofit organizations – Save the River, the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center and the Thousand Islands Land Trust – to help them better realize their ecological missions. Melfi acknowledges that preserving the planet can be daunting in the face of climate change, pollution and mass extinction. Still, she's discovered that when people come together to meet these challenges, they can make a difference as grand and impactful as the St. Lawrence itself.





Melfi's work as the Kenneth Deedy Environmental Steward brings her close to the wildlife that make the St. Lawrence River, and the area surrounding it, their home.



1946 is a period marked by hope as President Harry S. Truman officially proclaims the end of hostilities in World War II. • The first Cannes Film Festival is held, having been delayed seven years due to the fighting. • The first meeting of the United Nations General Assembly opens in London, with 51 nations represented. • The birth of the Baby Boom generation begins, with Mary, Linda, Patricia, Barbara, Carol, James, Robert, John, William and Richard being the most popular names of the era. • Children receive gifts such as Magic 8 Balls and Lionel steam trains. • Life begins to become easier. • ENIAC, the first electronic general-purpose computer, is dedicated and radar is installed aboard a commercial ship. • Jackie Robinson makes his debut as second baseman for the Montreal Royals. • People flock to the theaters created to bring the nations of the world together to address complex challenges. • Pope Pius XII publishes the Encyclical: *Quemadmodum*. • Emily Greene Balch and John Mott are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. • The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization is created to bring the nations of the world together to address complex challenges. • The first Cannes Film Festival is held, having been delayed seven years due to the fighting. • The first meeting of the United Nations General Assembly opens in London, with 51 nations represented. • The birth of the Baby Boom generation begins, with Mary, Linda, Patricia, Barbara, Carol, James, Robert, John, William and Richard being the most popular names of the era. • Children receive gifts such as Magic 8 Balls and Lionel steam trains. • Life begins to become easier. • ENIAC, the first electronic general-purpose computer, is dedicated and radar is installed aboard a commercial ship. • Jackie Robinson makes his debut as second baseman for the Montreal Royals. • People flock to the theaters created to bring the nations of the world together to address complex challenges. • Pope Pius XII publishes the Encyclical: *Quemadmodum*. • Emily Greene Balch and John Mott are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. • The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization is created to bring the nations of the world together to address complex challenges.

