

New Heights

Summer 2024 ● The Magazine of Le Moyne College



BELIEVE
IN INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

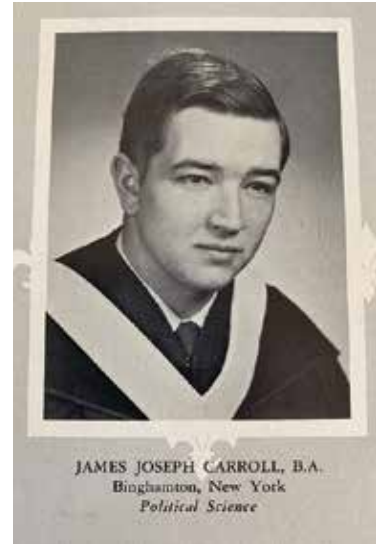
Jeanette Epps '92, Ph.D.

A TRANSFORMATIVE MOMENT IN LE MOYNE'S CARROLL COLLEGE OF

The College of Arts and Sciences is the academic heart of the Le Moyne College campus. It is the home to the largest number of students, majors, minors and faculty members on the Heights, as well as the Core Curriculum through which all undergraduate students build the knowledge and intellectual skills that support a lifetime of inquiry. This spring, thanks to a transformational \$12 million gift from James J. Carroll '66, Ph.D., and his wife, Mary Carroll, the College of Arts and Sciences has been christened the James J. '66 and Mary A. Carroll College of Arts and Sciences. It is the largest alumni gift in Le Moyne College history.

"Le Moyne College is blessed to have the generous support of Jim and Mary," President Linda LeMura, Ph.D., said during a ceremony on campus announcing the gift. "Their belief in Le Moyne will help us provide the values-informed, intellectually rigorous and student-centered education that has defined the College since its founding. Jim and Mary exemplify one of our enduring values, preparing our students to live lives of leadership and service that lead to a more just society."

Jim's journey through Le Moyne was not an easy one. Just two months before he began his studies at the College, his father passed away, leaving his mother to make the tuition payments. Fortunately she was able to use her late husband's savings, along with some stocks, to pay for her son's first year of College. However, during the remainder of his time on the Heights, Jim took multiple jobs both on and off campus to pay for his tuition and living expenses, including with the City of Syracuse's Department of Recreation and in the College's dining hall.



(above) Le Moyne yearbook photo of James Carroll '66.

(bottom, left to right) Chair of the Board of Trustees Pete DiLaura '78, President Linda LeMura, Ph.D., James Carroll '66, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs James Hannan, Ph.D., and Vice President for Advancement and Innovation James Joseph '83, Ed.D. '23, celebrate the establishment of the Carroll College of Arts and Sciences.



HISTORY: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES

The Carrolls' \$12 million gift will support three primary initiatives:

\$6 million will endow scholarships for students who enter Le Moyne as arts and sciences majors

\$4 million will be used to create the Dr. James J. Carroll '66 Endowed Professor in Arts and Sciences and the Mary A. Carroll Endowed Professor in Arts and Sciences, which will provide faculty members with career-changing opportunities to conduct research, advance knowledge, network with colleagues and enhance their professional credentials

\$2 million will support the newly formed William J. Bosch, S.J., Teaching and Learning Center, which will increase excellence in teaching and learning through professional development and programming.

A dual major in history and political science, Jim counted Anthony Bouscaren, Ph.D., Joseph Curran, Ph.D., and Ed Conan, J.D., among the professors who shaped the course of his life. The first two held diametrically opposed political views, but modeled for Jim how to think, formulate questions and shape an argument. (The latter reminded Jim of Professor Charles Kingsfield, a lead character in one of his favorite television shows, *The Paper Chase*, who was fond of saying, "You come in here with a skull full of mush, and when you leave you leave thinking like a lawyer.")

Following his graduation from Le Moyne, Jim earned a master of science in social studies education in 1970 from Syracuse University (SU) and doctorate in social sciences at SU's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs in 1985. He went on to a distinguished career in education, teaching social studies at Bishop Ludden High School from 1967 to 1973, at Westhill High School from 1973 to 1979, and at SU's School of Education from 1983 to 1987. Finally, Jim served as a research associate professor at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs from 1987 until his retirement earlier this year. Jim and Mary married in 1967 and raised seven children, all of whom went on to professional success in various fields, including clinical psychology, social work, dentistry, education, law and veterinary medicine. 📍



James Carroll '66 spoke to the Le Moyne community in a packed Grewen Auditorium when the gift was announced on March 26.



As alumna Jeanette Epps '92, Ph.D., travels to the International Space Station, a historic \$12 million gift to name the Dr. James J. '66 and Mary A. Carroll College of Arts and Sciences

paves the way for future Dolphins to realize their own bold dreams.



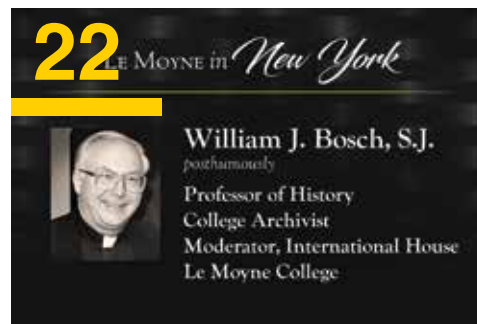
Illustrating Spain in the U.S.

Comic strips are more than colorful and creative. They serve as a platform to tell a story, evoke an emotion, express an opinion, or share information. The versatility of this artform was highlighted during an exhibit at Le Moyne titled *Illustrating Spain in the U.S.*, organized by Josefa Alvarez, Ph.D., of the Department of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures, through a collaboration with the Spanish Embassy in Washington, D.C. It featured comic strips that feed on academic knowledge and demonstrate that Spain has been part of the American reality since long before the U.S. was founded. The exhibit combined the graphic expressiveness of comics and their authors with the inquisitive perspective of scholars who had written a series of complementary articles. The opening of the exhibit, attended by the cultural attaché of the Spanish embassy, Miguel Albero, featured a lecture by exhibition curator Ana Merino (right), an award-winning writer and a professor at the University of Iowa, and Ana Penyas, a comic artist and recipient of the 2018 Spanish National Comic Award.



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**Academic Excellence.
William J. Bosch, S.J.,
Teaching and Learning
Center**



Don't Give Up

Q&A with James Carroll '66, Ph.D., about the James J. '66 and Mary A. Carroll College of Arts and Sciences



FEATURES

Extending Horizons

by Molly K. McCarthy



Cover: The 2024 spring semester was marked by two historic events. Le Moyne received its largest alumni gift ever, \$12 million, from James J. Carroll '66, Ph.D., and his wife, Mary, to name the James J. '66 and Mary A. Carroll College of Arts and Sciences. The Le Moyne community also celebrated one of its most esteemed arts and sciences graduates, Jeanette Epps '92, Ph.D. A physics major at Le Moyne, Epps is now a NASA astronaut and SpaceX Crew-8 mission specialist, conducting research that will help prepare future astronauts to return to the moon and travel even deeper into space. Epps is pictured in her pressure suit during a crew equipment integration test at SpaceX headquarters in Hawthorne, Calif. Credit: SpaceX

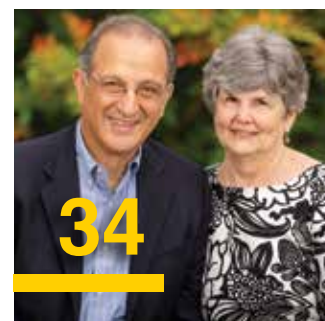


Power Players

by Molly K. McCarthy

A Lasting Gift Of Irish Intellect

Eileen Patricia (McMahon) Zogby '67 Education Fund
by Molly K. McCarthy



lemoyne.edu/alumni

Sharing your story can make a big difference in other people's lives. Le Moyne graduates have compelling, thought-provoking and entertaining stories to share. To share your story, contact our editor at mccartmk@lemoyne.edu. To submit a class note, go to 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 **Sept. 1, 2024**.
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 Marketing and 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 or mail to:

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GRATITUDE | As I reflect upon the past semester, I find myself returning to the same three words: I am grateful.



Astronaut Jeanette Epps answers student questions from the International Space Station.

First, members of the Le Moyne community cast their eyes skyward as Jeanette Epps '92, Ph.D., embarked on a historic mission to the International Space Station (ISS), some 250 miles above the surface of the earth. Just thinking about it is extraordinary. The ISS travels at approximately 17,500 miles per hour, orbiting the earth every 90 minutes. From her perch aboard this extraordinary lab, Jeanette and her colleagues witness 16 sunrises and sunsets every single day, and are engaged in research in which they themselves are part of the experiment. They are gathering data to aid humankind in living for longer and longer periods of time outside of the earth's protection. This collaborative research is astounding. Jeanette's intellect, humility and grace inspire me as a scientist whose professional life has been rooted in data and careful experimentation and as a human being who finds herself in awe of the world around her every single day.

Then, not long after Jeanette departed on the adventure of a lifetime, Le Moyne received news that will impact the College for generations to come. James Carroll '66 and his wife, Mary, announced that they were presenting Le Moyne with a gift of \$12 million to name the College of Arts and Sciences. It is the largest alumni gift in

our 78-year history. Jim and Mary serve as exemplars of one of our enduring values, preparing our students to live lives of leadership and service that lead to a more just society. On a personal note, this gift represents a full-circle moment for me. When my parents moved to Syracuse's North Side as new immigrants, Mary's mother, Anna, was a neighbor who offered my mother friendship, support and a sense of community. Little did I know that nearly 60 years later, the Roio family, immigrants who like my family came to America from Italy, would make such a profound impact on an institution that I love and that means so much to the region.

You will read more about Jeanette, Jim and Mary in this issue of *New Heights*. I hope that you too will be inspired by their bold vision and their laser focus on the future. As I said, these past months have left me filled with gratitude, a gratitude that can be difficult to express. Fortunately, I am reminded of these words by German Catholic theologian, philosopher and mystic Meister Eckhart, "If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough." So let me close this message with that simple prayer: *Thank you.*

.....
President Linda M. LeMura, Ph.D.



Image by iStockphoto on Freepik

EYES ON THE STARS | The study of astronomy does not need to be complex. It does not require much in the way of equipment. Simply walk outside on a clear night and you can see the moon, stars, constellations and, occasionally, events like meteor showers. It is, however, a discipline that can lead people to ask complicated questions that have philosophical as well as scientific underpinnings: Why are we here? What is our place in the universe? Are we alone in it? Le Moyne students are no strangers to these questions. Now they have an even greater opportunity to ask – and answer – them.



The College recently launched a five-course, 15-credit minor in astronomy. Housed in the Department of Physics, the program allows students to study and better understand the universe. The minor is open to students of all majors, with no more math involved than algebra. (There is an astrophysics minor that does require more advanced math.)

Courses in astronomy grew particularly popular at Le Moyne when the late George Coyne, S.J., former director of the Vatican Observatory, taught at the College in his capacity as the Distinguished McDevitt Chair in Physics. Following Father Coyne's passing in 2020, faculty members began reflecting on ways they could honor his memory and provide additional educational opportunities for their students. It was out of those conversations that a new minor was born.

This is a fascinating time to be studying this discipline, said Christopher Bass, Ph.D., an associate professor of physics who heads the program. The solar eclipse that was visible in Syracuse this spring gained the public's attention. In addition, Bass noted that the James Webb Space Telescope, which was launched in late 2021, has captured images from space that "have shifted our ideas about how the universe works in much the same way that the Hubble Space Telescope did decades ago." Since its launch, scientists have made "remarkable discoveries," Bass said, including finding some of the oldest galaxies in the universe, discovering several supermassive black holes, observing star formation inside of dense clouds of gas and dust, and measuring the chemical composition of the atmosphere of exoplanets, or planets that lie outside of the Solar

System. Of course, knowing that Le Moyne alumna Jeanette Epps '92, Ph.D., is living and working aboard the International Space Station has also captured the imaginations of members of the Le Moyne community like Emma Gross '26.

A Jamesville, N.Y., native, Gross has had a passion for space since she was in middle school. It led her to major in physics and minor in astrophysics at Le Moyne. Gross said that she has particularly enjoyed her work in the lab, which has allowed her to explore topics covered in class in greater detail. She hopes one day to work for NASA and to study exoplanets.

"I love the idea that we may make discoveries in space that can help us to better understand our existence here on Earth," she said. 📍

by Molly K. McCarthy

(left) Emma Gross '26 (student in the white sweater) talks with President Linda LeMura, Ph.D., during the solar eclipse on April 8.

(right) Associate Professor of Physics Chris Bass, Ph.D., shows some features of the telescope to his students.

"I love the idea that we may make discoveries in space that can help us to better understand our existence here on Earth"

Emma Gross '26

NASA astronaut Jeanette Epps '92, Ph.D., is now living and working aboard the International Space Station. That made us wonder: If you had the opportunity to travel to space, what would you bring with you? Here is what four faculty members had to say.

Faculty Angle

MEHMET KILINC, PH.D.

Associate Professor of Business Analytics

When deciding what to bring on a six-month journey to the ISS, my top priority would be selecting items that would help me enjoy my time and stay connected with loved ones within limited space and weight constraints. First, I would definitely need a decent camera to capture memories and breathtaking views of space during the journey. Secondly, given the duration of the trip, I would like to stay connected with my family and friends back home. I'd be sure to pack a laptop and a smartphone for communicating and sharing pictures. Additionally, I'd include music and headphones to relax in the emptiness of space. As a tea lover, I'd bring my favorite loose-leaf Earl Grey tea. Although I'd wish to bring my Turkish teapot, its practicality in space is questionable. This leads me to wonder how they warm up meals in the ISS.

JULIE OLIN-AMMENTORP, PH.D.

Professor of English

The astronauts on the ISS have a rigorous schedule! Still, there is some downtime. Here's what I would bring:

Books: *Middlemarch*, by George Eliot. A deeply human tale of ordinary people struggling to create meaningful lives. • *Death Comes for the Archbishop* by Willa Cather. A quiet but profound novel about faith, adjusting to new life circumstances, and the importance of friendship. • *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau. The classic work about living in and with nature, with its salutary reminder: "The sun is but a morning star." • *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy.

Music:

Bach, especially the cello suites, the Brandenburg concertos, and the complete piano music.

Debussy and Ravel: complete works by both composers. Transcendent and evocative.

Mozart's opera *Così Fan Tutti* and Rachel Portman's opera *The Little Prince* – stunningly beautiful scores.

Also: A notebook and a pen.

GINA MYERS, PH.D.

Assistant Professor of Nursing

A trip to space for six months would be both exciting and overwhelming. The things I would take with me would support my sense of wonder and give me courage. First, I would bring pictures of my family since I would miss them tremendously. My parents and husband have always encouraged me to embark on new adventures, and my children are great examples of how to be brave and flexible when handling all of life's "firsts." The next item would be a passport from 1958 that shows a picture of my grandmother and 9-year-old father when they came to the United States from Italy. It would remind me that others have taken life-changing journeys where things were uncertain and new, and they came out better on the other side. I would also bring my Bible since it contains words of strength that never grow old, such as Phillipians 4:13, which says: "I can do all things through Him who gives me strength." Last, I would bring a journal to take notes on everything I saw and experienced so not a moment would be forgotten.

PATRICK YURCO, PH.D.

Associate Professor of Biological and Environmental Sciences

If I were traveling to the International Space Station, I would bring four items: a pair of drumsticks (the musical variety, not the bird variety) and a practice pad; a device with a wide range of music to listen to aboard the ISS; and a notebook to use as a journal. Playing drums and music is very therapeutic for me and would likely be necessary for me to cope with the challenges of the ISS. In addition, as a neuroscientist and a musician, I would be interested in learning: 1) how being in space would affect my ability to play the drums and 2) how it would influence my musical preferences. How does a lack of gravity impact the physical ability to execute precisely the fine movements necessary to properly play drums? Would there be a significant adjustment period when I return? Finally, I would like to know how the unique environment of space would influence my musical preferences.





ECOSYSTEMS IN ACTION | There is no better way to learn about different environments than by immersing yourself in them. A group of students enrolled in North American Ecosystems, led by Professor of Environmental Science Systems Larry Tanner, Ph.D., discovered that firsthand. The course is designed to give students a greater understanding of the diversity of biological communities in North America, with particular focus on comparing the temperate communities of Central New York with the diverse dry ecosystems encountered at both low and high elevations in Arizona.



Last January, a team of nine undergraduates traveled to Arizona, visiting Phoenix, Tucson, Sedona and Flagstaff before making their way to the Grand Canyon. They observed up close ecosystems that many of them had never previously seen in person, learning about foreign plant communities, geologic records, and how people across Arizona are experiencing a changing climate.

In designing the class, Tanner said that his aim was twofold. He wanted the students to observe the elements of the biological communities they encountered, and to understand the largely

climatic controls on the structure of those communities. He did not want them to have to “recite long lists of names of various species” from rote memory, but to “learn what types of plants and animals occur in different locations, their relative abundances, and why this is so.”

“With this understanding, they are better prepared to ask their own questions, and also to better appreciate how anthropogenic changes to the environment can affect or even threaten biological communities,” he said.

For Timothy Baker '24, an environmental science systems

major from East Greenbush, N.Y., the trip brought to life lessons he had learned in the classroom.

“Research allow you to become involved in a topic of interest and gives you hands-on experience,” said Baker, who plans to pursue a master’s degree in environmental engineering at Syracuse University. “Especially as an environmental science student, I believe going out into the field is just a part of the major. It allows for the application of concepts in the classroom, the exploration of interests, and the development of critical thinking skills.” 📍

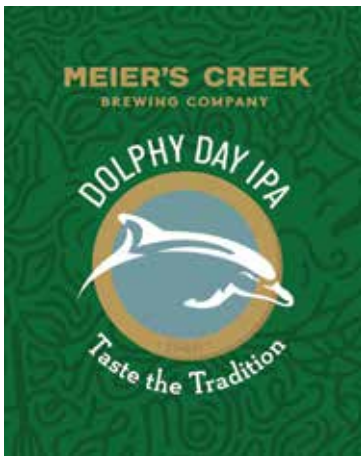
by Molly K. McCarthy

(upper left) Ancient pueblo ruins at Wupatki National Monument in Northern Arizona.

(left) Students from Professor Tanner’s class investigate a petrified tree at Petrified Forest National Park.

(right) The class visited Saguro National Park to study the ecosystem there.

Taste Makers



Dolphy Day IPA is here.

A nod to one of Le Moyne's most beloved traditions, the new craft beer is the result of a collaboration between Meier's Creek Brewing Company (MCBC) and Le Moyne, whose student-run marketing firm, Heights Global Marketing (HGM), played a key role in developing the beverage. The HGM team, along with a group of students completing a marketing capstone project, put what they learned in the classroom into practice. They surveyed alumni about the preferred type and name of the beer and, once those were selected, contributed to the design of the label. The students also developed a number of items to help with the promotion of the beer. They saw up close what it takes to craft a social media strategy, write an effective press release, and brand a new product.

"I love [finding] ways to appeal to a certain consumer depending on the product, or in this case, [creating] a product specifically for a certain target market," said HGM member Sarah Cone '24, a marketing and management information systems major from Cicero, N.Y. "Developing a great brand requires creativity, thought and research. I enjoyed combining all of those things as we worked on different elements of this project, including the survey/focus group and the label design."

Dolphy Day IPA is available at Meier's Creek locations in Cazenovia, N.Y., and the Syracuse Inner Harbor and retail stores throughout the region. Under its agreement with MCBC, the College will receive 20 percent of all sales, which will go to the Le Moyne College Fund and specifically target the College's wellness initiatives and student scholarship to help offset the cost of attendance.



Models wearing clothing designed by Katya Krenina during New York Fashion Week.

On The Runway

I recently debuted my first collection during New York Fashion Week, merging art, storytelling and inspiration from nature and travel. Each garment unveiled on the runway was a canvas that told a unique story, a story woven with vibrant colors, luxurious fabrics and intricate patterns. I aimed to transport the audience into a realm where art and fashion converge in a harmonious blend. As the excitement from my New York show lingers, I am eagerly preparing for my upcoming September show in Paris during Paris Fashion Week. I have also received invitations to present my collection in London, Miami, Dubai and Milan.

Although I have illustrated 14 books for children, my passion for fabrics and fiber arts always held me captive. I aspire to design clothing and accessories that seamlessly merge my love for illustration, textiles and storytelling. That is how "Silk and Soul," my brand of silk accessories and clothing, was born. What's more, I derive great pleasure from sharing my knowledge and passion for art with my wonderful students.

Katya Krenina has taught drawing, painting and illustration courses as an adjunct faculty member at Le Moyne College since 2008. Krenina holds degrees in illustration and interdisciplinary art.

Overheard on campus ...

🗣️ In a world growing increasingly diverse by nearly every measure, fostering an environment of acceptance and inclusion is vital as our students engage with their classmates and, eventually, make their mark on the world. 💬 Every student has a different story. It brings so much to our community. 🏀 Prediction for the big game? Easy. 'Phins by a million. ⚖️ Our shared Jesuit values call upon us to practice service rooted in justice and to develop solidarity and kinship with others. ❤️ Love this place. Let's keep building meaning. 🎭 I have always found myself in Shakespeare, as if these works were written for me. 😓 This is the most Monday-like Tuesday ever. ⚙️ (On what life is like at the Keenan Center) Just another day at the epicenter of change. 🍰 Carrot cake is essentially a serving of vegetables. 🙏 Praying with others [focuses] my attention on God and the Church and not on myself. 🧑🎓 My students see one version of [me] in the classroom. The stories I haven't shared would maybe help me connect with them on another level. 📱 If you make great decisions using the tools that we teach, you won't be a number at all. People will follow you. 🎓 While in school, often I didn't understand the practicality of some of the liberal arts courses I took. I couldn't [have been] any "wronger." For a fulfilling life, the Jesuit education system couldn't be better.

Your Perspective



A Multicultural Vision | We know that how we have experienced the world will impact how we view others. To that end, Le Moyne's Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program examines personal upbringing in addition to dynamics of communication, multicultural competence and evidence-based approaches to therapy. Through papers and interviews, students self-explore. Through capstone research, they pinpoint their areas of interest. Since students work on capstones for a full year, I tell them to choose a topic that motivates them – where they feel a connection. The list of subjects they have explored includes support for parents of children with disabilities, romantic relationships and well-being, and substance use and attachment style. Between internships and this research, students become aware of community trends and provide resources for intervention. The motivation for my own research is related to my bicultural upbringing. I have researched and volunteered with Ukrainian families for many years. Most recently, the war has made the public more aware of Ukraine. But for me, Ukrainian politics have always been personal and intergenerational. This guides my research, my approach to working with immigrant families, and my multicultural vision for coursework.

Christina M. Bobesky, Ph.D., is an associate professor and director of Le Moyne's Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program.

A Baby Boomer and a member of Gen Z reflect on what life is like as a first-generation college student – then and now.

Face to Face



JAILYNN CASTRO '27

Breaking Down Barriers

Being a Dominican-born first-generation college student is a unique adventure as well as an achievement. It's an exciting and challenging route as I make my way across unfamiliar territory within my family. The pride of breaking down barriers between generations and seeking higher education is tempered by the unfamiliarity of college life.

First-generation students frequently struggle with a sense of duty, feeling the pressure of family expectations and the need to inspire the next generation. It can be difficult for them to navigate the academic environment and they may require more guidance. However, I am motivated by hope for a better future, and my commitment is clear as I explore this environment.

The campus experience for first-generation students is one of adaptation and self-discovery. I try to create a network of mentors and peers who are aware of my struggles. Even though I have a difficult path ahead of me, I am driven by my will to rewrite the story of my family. Also, I try to show others that first-generation students can do anything. They are leaders in their fields, exemplifying the transformative power of education and the fortitude needed to merge the promise of new opportunities and family traditions.

Jailynn Castro '27 is a sociology major who is planning to pursue a career as a social worker.

JAMES 'GUS' GILLEN '74

Finding a Routine – and Friends for Life

In 1970, I was the first in my family to go to college. Neither my parents nor I realized we could have visited colleges before I decided which one to attend. I flew to Syracuse in September of 1970 to attend Le Moyne – sight unseen. My decision was based on the recommendation of my high school counselor at Brooklyn Prep, Ray Balduf, S.J.

I boarded a plane at JFK with no idea of what was ahead of me. I had never been north of Yonkers in my life and now I was headed to Syracuse. The taxi ride on Route 81 gave me a glimpse of the tallest building in Syracuse – the round Holiday Inn on Almond and Fayette streets.

I had to figure out a lot on my own and I did – at least I think I did. I earned a position on the freshman basketball team, which was then coached by Fran Satalin. He became an anchor in my new college life. The familiarity and routine of being on a basketball team provided stability during that first year of college. Coach and I remain friends and in contact with one another to this day.

My years at Le Moyne provided me with friends for life; my wife (49 years and counting); my teaching career (34 years in Baldwinsville); and the chance to play competitive basketball in college.

I was fortunate to have had eight years of Jesuit education, It instilled values in my life that I am grateful for to this day.

James (Gus) Gillen '74 is a retired educator who resides in Baldwinsville, N.Y.



Students at the Saint Francis Inn

Unforgettable Smiles

When Andrea Potter '25 learned that her best friend, Ollie Quinones Rivera '25, was taking part in a service trip to the Saint Francis Inn in Philadelphia, Pa., she knew that she wanted to participate. Saint Francis provides necessities such as food and clothing to those in need, and was founded on the idea that anyone who walks through its doors is a guest and should be treated as such. That philosophy of hospitality resonated with Potter. Along with Quinones Rivera, Grace McMahon '24 and Ifeoma Amaukwu '27, she spent a week preparing and serving meals, folding laundry,

picking up donations and doing “anything else” that needed to be done around in the inn. Some of the group’s most memorable moments came from the conversations they had or the smiles they exchanged with the people they met. There was an overwhelming sense of community at the inn. Potter has no doubt that the experience will resonate with her long into the future. As she puts it, “You never know what another person is going through so it is incredibly important to treat others with kindness, respect and dignity. I hope to do that with each interaction I have.”

A Second Dom (Дом)

Veronika Atyeva’s journey to Le Moyne was a bit longer than most. A member of the Class of 2027, Veronika grew up in Moscow, Russia, some 4,500 miles and eight time zones away from the Heights. Her first trip to campus also marked her first trip to the United States. It was, she says, “exciting and a bit nerve-racking” to arrive in an entirely unfamiliar setting. Fortunately, it did not take her long to find a rhythm and routine. A student in the College’s Integral Honors Program, Veronika is pursuing a major in computer science and a minor in philosophy. Her long-term aim is to earn a doctorate and to work at the intersection of artificial intelligence and ethics. It is important to her to leave her mark on an area that is of particular importance to her generation, and which will have enormous implications for humanity at large. She is eager to explore this consequential field. Until then, Veronika is enjoying the life of a college student, and all that it entails. She is a member of the College’s Stempower program and Women in Cybersecurity Club, and represents the Class of 2027 on the Student Government Association. Veronika also works approximately 20 hours per week for the Office of Information Technology and Noreen Reale Falcone Library. The 19-year-old’s life at the College has been punctuated by seemingly small moments that, when taken together, stand out to her. Those moments include gaining confidence in a challenging calculus class, teaching her friends a few words of Russian, and celebrating her first Thanksgiving. For Veronika, Le Moyne has become not just a school, but a second dom (Дом).



A Faire for the Curious



Creativity and ingenuity were on display at the 2024 Maker Faire, whose sponsors included Le Moyne’s Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity. Held at the New York State Fairgrounds, the Maker Faire was an opportunity for curious people who enjoy learning to share what they can do. Described by organizers as “part science fair, part county fair and part entirely something new,” the faire was

designed to be forward looking, just as the Keenan Center is.

Those who visited the faire were treated to a showcase of invention, creativity and resourcefulness.

What’s more, they were encouraged to be inspired by what they saw. In all, the faire drew 603 makers, up 20 percent from the previous year, and 1,939 visitors, up 14 percent from the previous year.



DOLPHIN IN SPACE

A pod of eight 7-foot-tall ceramic Dolphins is making quite a splash across campus. The 'Phins are not just a curiosity. They are part of an art installation designed to celebrate the first Dolphin in space, Jeanette Epps '92, Ph.D., who is now aboard the International Space Station. A group of talented art students put their own spin on each of the Dolphins. They used paint and, in some cases, collage to make each one unique.



Digital art created by Emily Alvarez

Oreo's Moment of Fame

I told my cat Oreo that she would be famous – and now she is – at least at Le Moyne. A portrait of her is on display at the W. Carroll Coyne Center for the Performing Arts. The image is based on a photo I took of her while on a visit back home. (I miss Oreo and wanted to take pictures of her to brighten my day.) I created this piece of art in my Digital Illustration class using Adobe Illustrator. I had no prior experience with Illustrator, so navigating the software was tricky at first. Professor Lindsey Voorhees let us practice using it. Still, the project posed unexpected challenges. Working on Oreo's eyes and fur was particularly difficult. Her black and white fur required

emphasis to appear soft. I spent multiple Fridays in the lab, with my mom supporting me over the phone, finally discovering how to use the pencil tool and match colors to bring out the various whites and grays of the fur. Despite the obstacles, I completed the piece to my satisfaction. My classmates liked it, and I was surprised when Professor Voorhees chose to display it. I jokingly told Oreo she was a celebrity, but I was proud of my accomplishment. Notably, I omitted Oreo's mouth from this tribute to her. It reflects her quiet nature.

Emily Alvarez '26 is pursuing a dual major in marketing and management and leadership with a minor in visual art.

Talking Cold War Politics over Breakfast

This winter Barbara Maciel '26 found herself walking the halls of an institution that has played a critical role in American history since the Revolution, surrounded by other young people who are as passionate about politics and foreign affairs as she is. A political science major, Maciel represented Le Moyne at the 74th Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA) at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. It was there that the Londrina, Brazil, native found herself discussing “the Cold War at breakfast, liberalism at lunch, and international economics at dinner.” She had the opportunity to meet former U.S. Secretary of State and current Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry, shown at right with Maciel, polster and political consultant Frank Luntz, and *New York Times* national security correspondent David Sanger. Having grown up in a Brazilian community on Cape Cod, Mass., where her life was shaped by international relations, particularly immigration, Maciel said the conference made one thing abundantly clear: “What draws me to politics is the hope that I can help others, especially those at the mercy of the immigration system, through these studies.”



Dolphin Green & Gold Fund, LLC



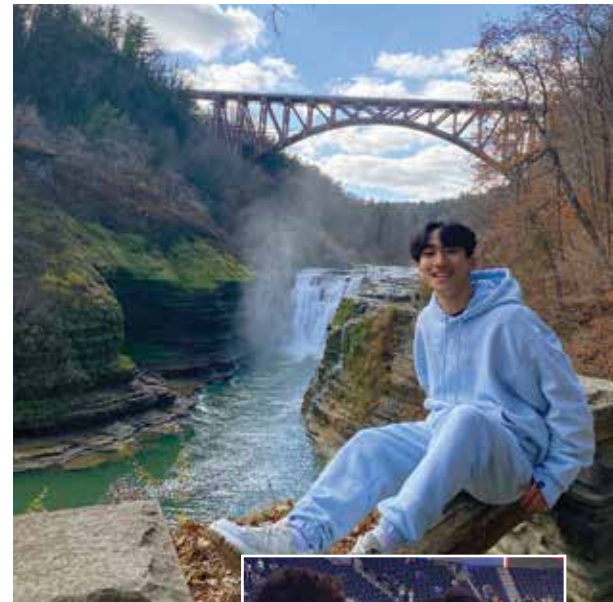
Dean of the Madden College of Business and Economics Jim Joseph '83, Ed.D. '23 believes that a Le Moyne education is a sound investment. That is especially true when it comes to providing students with real-world opportunities to put what they have learned in the classroom into practice. That philosophy, and his belief in the College's students and faculty, inspired Joseph to found the Dolphin Green and Gold Fund, LLC (DGGF). Joseph initially raised \$1 million to support the fund, \$750,000 in 2019 and \$250,000 in 2020. Since then, it has grown by approximately 30 percent, from \$1 million to \$1.3 million, making it the 46th largest student-managed fund in the United States. The DGGF helped to propel the College's finance program to number 34 in the nation (according to *U.S. News and World Report*) and aided finance in becoming the fourth most popular major at the College. DGGF alumni have landed jobs at global banks, including Goldman Sachs, UBS, JP Morgan, Bank of America, Morgan Stanley and BNY Mellon, and regional ones, such as Matrix Capital and Brown Dillon & Lang. Graduates who participated in the fund have gone on to work for large corporations, including Lockheed Martin and Saab-Sensis, as well as the “Big Four” accounting firms, KPMG, EY, PwC and Deloitte.

The fund currently has a total of 20 investors. The newest are Kathy Purcell '66 and Lisa Brown '99. Along with her late husband, John '65, Kathy Purcell is the namesake of the Purcell School of Professional Studies and the Purcell Endowed Chair in Finance. Brown is a partner and wealth adviser at CI Brightworth Private Wealth.

“The experiential opportunities and student outcomes are invaluable,” said John Hunter, director of the fund. “The bottom line is that the fund increases the reputation of both the Madden College of Business and Economics and, more importantly, our students' chances of landing great jobs in a highly competitive field.”



BE BRAVE | William Lee recalls peering out of the window of the plane that would bring him from his home in Taipei, Taiwan, to the United States. As the island nation appeared to become smaller and smaller through the window, Lee thought about what lay ahead for him. He was the first student from Fu Jen Catholic University to take part in an exchange program with Le Moyne College, and was about to spend a full academic year on the Heights. He imagined taking classes, immersing himself in campus life, and exploring as much of the United States as possible. Lee had been to the U.S. before, but not for such an extended period of time. He was determined to make the most of this opportunity, and it's safe to say he succeeded.



A dual major in electrical engineering and computer science, Lee has taken courses in communications, computer science, marketing, management and leadership, and information systems at Le Moyne. Following his graduation, he aspires to work for Google, either as a software or hardware engineer. As part of a course titled Design Thinking and the Next Step with Leslie Streissguth, he had the opportunity to speak to Le Moyne alumnus Steven Nunez '19 about Nunez's own experience working for the technology behemoth. He called their conversation "life-changing." Away from the classroom, Lee has watched the sun rise over Onondaga Lake as he glided across the water with

the College's Rowing Club. He has also traveled extensively, visiting New York City, Salem, Mass., and Niagara Falls, N.Y., in the East and San Diego, San Francisco and Lake Tahoe, Calif., in the West. (It was in Lake Tahoe that he went snowboarding for the first time.)

Perhaps most important, Lee has come to feel at home at Le Moyne. He has forged close connections to his professors; perfected his English and taught others on campus a few words of Mandarin; and enjoyed simple moments with his friends, cheering on the Dolphins at home games whenever he can. He has called this "the happiest year of my life."

Lee recently received a call from another student from Fu Jen Catholic University who may be coming to Le Moyne in the fall. She had a lot of questions for him about what to expect, how to acclimate to a new environment, and what life is like on campus. Lee was happy to share his experiences with her. During their conversation, he stressed that studying abroad is a wonderful opportunity to "broaden your vision" and offered her and all students studying abroad the following advice:

"Be brave, be confident and do everything you can." 📍

by Molly K. McCarthy



William Lee's time in the U.S. has included (top to bottom) skiing at Greek Peak in Cortland, N.Y., making great friends at Le Moyne, hiking at Genesee Falls, N.Y., and going to an NBA Warriors game in San Francisco, Calif.

Reflections from World Youth Day

Held every three to four years, World Youth Day (WYD) is an opportunity for young people from around the world to worship and celebrate the Catholic faith. Among those in attendance at the most recent WYD in Lisbon, Portugal, were several members of the Le Moyne community. Three of them reflected upon what their faith means to them, and what it was like to be surrounded by 1.5 million young Catholics from around the globe.



(left to right) Lindsey Bush '23, John Greulich '26 and Victoria Baranek '23 gather during their trip to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal.

The Road to Faith is Not Meant to Be Walked Alone

I heard about World Youth Day from my parish youth minister, who talked about what great experiences he had attending past celebrations. I thought I'd like to participate if the opportunity arose. I wanted to experience life in another country, especially one where the Catholic faith is foundational to the culture.

My favorite part of the experience was visiting the various churches in Lisbon. Beauty, being from God, naturally lifts our minds and hearts to Him. The churches were so pretty that you couldn't resist praying. For me, praying the Liturgy of the Hours in those ancient places was impactful because I knew those psalms had been prayed inside those walls for centuries. But beyond the extraordinary surroundings, it was wonderful to be with youth from all over the world who were at World Youth Day to celebrate their faith like I was. Praying with people who speak different languages and live in vastly different cultures was awe-inspiring. During the closing Mass there were 1.5 million young Catholics from all over the world worshipping together. You can't help but be changed by that experience.

I know that it's common on retreats or pilgrimages to experience God's grace in a powerful way and to be on fire for the faith while engaged in that activity, only to have that fire fade once you return home. However, I derive motivation and consolation just by recalling the vivid memories I have of my time in Portugal. There's grace in remembering the beauty and joy I experienced.

Being a young person of faith today can be isolating. It can be lonely to practice the faith when you feel as though you don't have any spiritual peers to walk alongside you. Attending World Youth Day affected the way I think about this issue. I saw and experienced firsthand that millions of young people throughout the world love the faith like I do and we were all brought together. The road to heaven is not meant to be walked alone.

Jacob Cottet '25 is a physics major from Syracuse, N.Y. Cottet is particularly interested in nuclear physics, and hopes to work in a laboratory setting one day.



Living the Idea of *Magis*

I was initially interested in participating in World Youth Day because of Father Pat Rogers' enthusiasm for the fantastic opportunity. I am also interested in traveling, and Portugal is a great place to visit. By far my favorite part of the experience was meeting other young adults from Jesuit institutions from around the world. World Youth Day will help me live the idea of *magis* – of doing and being more – every day of my life. I want to live for others and contribute to the greater good. That is especially true when it comes to combating climate change. It is the most critical issue facing my generation. While I was abroad I met people from around the world and learned how their lives are being affected by it. Attending World Youth Day made me incredibly proud to be a Le Moyne student, and representing the College was an honor.

John Greulich '26 is a risk management and insurance major from Walpole, Mass. Following his graduation, he plans to work in the insurance field.



(left to right) Victoria Baranek '23, John Greulich '26, Elissa Hoffman '25, Jacob Cottet '25 and Lindsey Bush '23 gather in Campo de Graca in Lisbon before Pope Francis celebrated Mass during World Youth Day.

The Power of Community

I was born and raised in a Roman Catholic family, and thought that traveling to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal, would be a wonderful opportunity for me to further my faith journey. Beyond that, I wanted to experience what it is like for millions of Catholic youth to come together, regardless of their nationality, socioeconomic background or political affiliation. It was astonishing to be in the midst of this massive crowd, to have someone from Nicaragua on my left and someone from Austria on my right and to know that we were all there for the same reason – to grow spirituality.

Overall my time at World Youth Day taught me about the power of community and commonality. That is something I have come

to appreciate more and more as a Le Moyne student. One of the most important things we can do is to form connections to others so that we can build a better future – together. To that end, I hope that I will always embrace the joy of listening to others share stories of their journeys during pilgrimages like the one I took to World Youth Day and in everyday conversation.

Elisa Hoffmann '25 is a physics major from Buffalo, N.Y., who is also pursuing a master's degree in civil engineering from Syracuse University through Le Moyne's dual-degree partnership with SU. After completing her graduate degree, Hoffmann hopes to work to improve public and non-car-focused transportation systems.

Lessons of a Lifetime in Tanzania



Carrie Rewakowski, Madison Cirencione '24 and Max Obrist '24 visit a school partnering with Global Volunteers. They taught the boys and girls about healthy hygiene habits for emerging teens.

“It’s not about swooping in and trying to take control of a situation. It’s about listening closely, and building partnerships and relationships.”

Samantha Sassone, DNP

Katherine Continelli '24 remembers her first morning in Tanzania clearly. Continelli had arrived in Dar es Salaam, the country’s largest city, in the dark, after nearly two full days of travel. Taking in her surroundings in the daylight for the first time felt “surreal,” she recalled. The Central New York native was more excited than ever to make her way to her final destination, the Iringa Region in the Southern Highlands, some 250 miles away. Continelli was part of a team of students from Le Moyne’s Department of Nursing who had traveled to the East African nation with Global Volunteers, a nonprofit organization that leverages volunteers in a variety of settings, including hospitals and clinics, in order to help people in communities around the world reach their full potential.



Jacklyn Bell, FNP '24 and Anastasia Melnyk, FNP '24 attended a birth while in Tanzania and cared for both the mother and infant.

Led by Professor of Practice Carrie Rewakowski, Ph.D., and Assistant Professor Samantha Sassone, DNP, the students spent nearly two weeks immersing themselves in the community. They provided direct-patient care at a local clinic, conducted home visits and assessed the needs of the area through what they called “windshield surveys.” Their efforts did not end there, though. The students also worked with young people enrolled in a program called Reaching Children’s Potential, whose aim is to reduce childhood stunting, and helped local women organize recovery meetings for individuals combating alcohol use disorder. Perhaps most meaningful, the members of the Le Moyne team compared notes with

the local health care workers they met. The students and faculty members asked their peers in Tanzania how they monitored fetal heart rates during labor. They in turn inquired about various health care apps they saw the visitors using.

“That is what I love the most about the Global Volunteers model,” said Sassone, who has now practiced medicine on five continents. “It’s not about swooping in and trying to take control of a situation. It’s about listening closely, and building partnerships and relationships.”

Rewakowski echoed those sentiments, saying that the students went to Tanzania with “a sense of adventure

and an open spirit,” They saw, touched and experienced community health in ways that closely align with the College’s Jesuit ideals of service to others and *cura personalis*, or care for the whole person. As their time abroad progressed, the faculty members witnessed the students gaining even greater confidence and trust in themselves as clinicians. Without access to diagnostic instruments like continuous ultrasound monitoring and EKG and MRI machines, they learned to rely on the basics: a patient’s health history, physical exams and data collection. The students became more present and better listeners.

That was certainly the case for Jacklyn Bell, FNP '24, who said that she was “humbled” by her time in Tanzania. She looks forward to practicing nursing in a way that honors the humanity of every patient she will encounter.

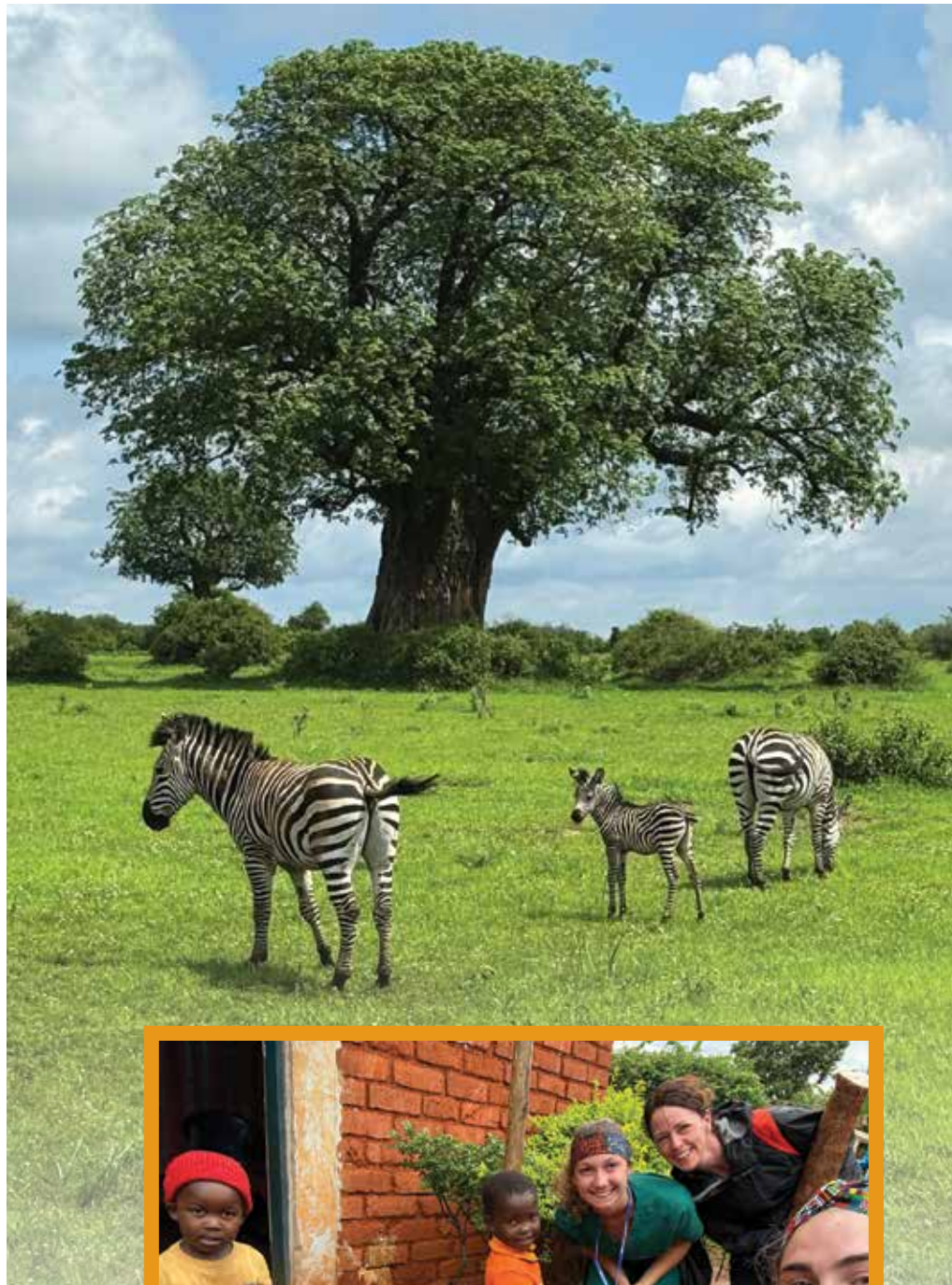
“This experience has taught me to view the world with wider, more open eyes and accept things that I cannot change, and it has given me courage to change the things that I can,” she said.

For Continelli, who vividly remembered her first morning in Tanzania, the lessons she learned there will last a lifetime.

“I have and will continue to be more culturally competent and compassionate because of this experience, not only in my career, but also in my personal life,” she said. 📍

By Molly K. McCarthy

Learn more about Le Moyne’s undergraduate and graduate programs in nursing at lemoyne.edu/nursing



(background photo) Members of the Le Moyne team took part in a two-night safari in the Ruaha National Park, where in addition to zebras they saw lions, giraffes, elephants, hippos, crocodiles and countless species of birds.

(above, left to right) Madison Cirencione '24, Carrie Rewakowski and Katherine Continelli '24 visit with two children participating in the Global Volunteers program “Reaching Children’s Potential.”

(left) Madison Kalt '24 helps to lead a lesson in English for local students.

Leaving a Lasting Legacy



For the Silaika family attending Le Moyne College serves as a tradition for each member who has reached his or her college years. To date, five of the six children of Beth and Todd Silaika have enrolled in Le Moyne and competed on the Dolphins' swimming and diving team.

It started as a summertime activity to keep the family occupied with the same pastime.

"Our mom said that if we wanted to do a sport, we all had to do the same one because she wasn't going to drive around dropping us off at different sports," recalled Karen, the oldest of the siblings. "We all liked swimming, so we stuck with it and that's how we all got involved."

Karen continued her involvement with swimming, eventually joining the local area club team and ranking as a top performer for her high school's varsity team, before finding her way to Le Moyne.

As Karen settled into her first few years on the Heights, adjusting to college coursework, NCAA-level practices and competitions, and finding her way, her younger sister, Vicky, was beginning her own college search.

The second-oldest Silaika sibling thought she had one thing firmly decided – she would not be following in her older sister's footsteps.

However a trip to support her sister in a dual-meet during her junior year of high school led Vicky to reconsider her college choice.

"I went to go watch one of Karen's

meets in Ithaca. Le Moyne was competing in a dual-meet there. And then the next day she convinced me to visit campus. I was able to meet [former] Coach [Joe] Hannah and a lot of the team," Vicky said.

Vicky affirmed her final decision when visiting campus for the Family and Alumni Homecoming Weekend, where she watched current Le Moyne swimmers and alumni compete against each other in a friendly competition known as the Alumni Meet.

"It was early in my senior year. I went up for the Alumni Meet and I was like, 'All right, I'm going to go to Le Moyne, and I'm going to swim. This is the place.' Le Moyne was the only school I even applied to," Vicky said.

Sharing the same college, but especially serving as teammates for two seasons provided a strong bonding experience for Vicky and Karen.

"The whole time we were always lane mates.

Every single big meet from early in high school together, we swam in the direct lane next to each other. All of our championship meets, all through my last meet ever, the NE-10 Conference Championships, there was only one or two races where we weren't right next to each other. And I feel like everyone viewed it as a sibling rivalry, but it really wasn't that," Karen said.

The sisters did admit that their "strong personalities" sometimes led to a difference in opinion, or a "sister tiff," as they came to call it, but even those moments never lasted long.

Instead, sharing a team and a community allowed the sisters to grow not only together in their relationship, but also as their individual selves.

After Karen graduated in 2020, Vicky got the chance to swap roles when their little sister, Bella, the third Silaika daughter, joined the team as a freshman.

"Having Bella on the team with me for two years was really fun as well because I got to watch her grow into a swimmer, a student and an adult, which was fun," Vicky said.

In 2022, the Le Moyne men's swimming and diving program welcomed its first addition from the Silaika bunch – the fourth-born child of Todd and Beth, Xavier "Xav" Silaika.

A rising junior majoring in human resources, Xavier confirmed his sisters' claims that becoming a swimmer was a decision made without his input.

"I didn't really have a choice about



swimming. I was just told, ‘This is the sport you’re doing.’ I think I was 4 years old. I joined a swim club. And that was it. Things started there and never stopped,” Xavier said.

Alongside the mandatory sport of swimming, Xavier did participate in other competitions in his youth.

“I tried playing football because I really liked it ... but it just didn’t work out. And I played lacrosse in sixth grade, but it interfered with swimming. At the end of the day, swimming was always ‘it,’” Xavier said.

Like the sport of swimming, Le Moyne College seemed like a natural fit for Xavier, and there were more benefits than just the opportunity to pursue college athletics.

“I already knew that I was going to become a business major. I already knew that I wanted to compete in swimming in college, and I already knew that I wanted to stay in New York. And Le Moyne was just far enough, but not too far. There was nothing wrong with the school and everything right with it,” Xavier said.

Having several siblings precede him may seem

like a disadvantage in the eyes of some, but Xavier loved the chance to immediately bond with his teammates.

“Everyone knew some of those older stories about me from my siblings. Same with my nickname. The nickname ‘Bubba’ came from Vicky. They all called me that instead of Xavier. But I like that nickname, so it was fine. I knew that everybody knew who I was, but I didn’t know anybody, and they all loved me from the beginning,” Xavier said.

The Silaika legacy at Le Moyne doesn’t end with Xavier either – the fifth born of the six siblings, Sophie Silaika, transferred to join her brother as a member of Le Moyne’s Class of 2027 this semester.

The youngest Silaika sister, Genny, will soon begin her senior year of high school. Only time will tell if she follows in the footsteps of the rest of her siblings and ends up home on the Heights. [📍](#)



(photos clockwise from top left) Todd Silaika with four of his children, Karen, Bella, Vicky and Xavier. Teammates and sisters Vicky and Karen Silaika. Xavier Silaika at a swim meet. Bella Silaika while attending Le Moyne.

This in an excerpt from Scaling The Heights by Aly Blair '23

Transformation Ahead

With \$12 million in funding from the state of New York, the Thomas J. Niland Jr. Athletic Complex at Le Moyne College is scheduled to undergo a \$45 million expansion and renovation over the next five years. In addition to improvements to the existing facilities, plans include the addition of a track and field and tennis complex, a team community center including locker rooms and sports medicine facilities, a strength and conditioning facility for student-athletes, and the addition of a new fitness center. The Vincent B. Ryan, S.J., Pool will also have improvements made as part of the project.

Assemblymember Pam Hunter (128th district) led the effort to secure a two-year \$10 million commitment from the state to renew and expand Le Moyne’s athletic facilities, which will be available to the community in addition to Le Moyne’s Division I athletes, students and employees. Hunter secured \$5 million in capital funds this year to design and construct a tennis and track and field facility with another \$5 million to follow in 2025 to renovate the

Recreation Center and other public-facing facilities. In addition, State Senator John Mannion (50th district) secured \$2 million for the project, which will likely be used specifically to renovate the pool and supporting facilities, as well other facilities that could be used by the public.

The College is raising private and corporate funds to complete the \$45 million project. The College pool is currently used by a number of outside groups, including high schools, the Syracuse Chargers and others. Once the facilities are renovated and completed, the College will offer free summer sports camps and other educational programs to neighborhood groups. In addition, a number of entities have already indicated interest in using the new and upgraded facilities, including residents of Springfield Gardens and Swiss Village, Tillie’s Touch, Clear Path for Veterans, On Point for College, the North Side Learning Center and Elmcrest Children’s Center, as well as participants of Le Moyne’s ERIE21 program.





NORTHEAST
CONFERENCE
NEC Year 1

Le Moyne Division I Northeast Conference Highlights

The **women's basketball** team went 14-2 in Northeast Conference play, the best conference winning percentage in program history, and advanced to the NEC championship game as the second seed. That earned the squad an invitation to the 2024 Women's National Invitation Tournament.

The **men's basketball** team faced off against the Georgetown University Hoyas for the first time in nearly 71 years. The team went on to finish fourth in the NEC standings and advanced to the NEC semifinals.

The **men's tennis** team advanced to the NEC semifinals as the fifth seed with a 4-2 victory over Long Island University.

The **women's lacrosse** team earned the third seed in the NEC Tournament and finished its first season back at the Division I level with a 9-9 record.

The department had 19 student-athletes earn **Northeast Conference All-Conference** recognition:

Jack Goodrich '24, Jakob Priestman '26 and Felix Ludemann '27 for men's soccer

Danielle Casey '24 for women's soccer

Luke Sutherland '23, M.B.A. '24 and Kaiyem Cleary, M.B.A. '24 for men's basketball

Lytoya Baker '24 and Sydney Lusher '23, M.S.T. '25 for women's basketball

Peter Hatton '25, Leon Grundstroem, M.B.A. '24, Alvaro Nunez, M.B.A. '24 and Luke Stojanovic, M.B.A. '24 for men's tennis

Lilly Locastro '24, Sarah Hutchings '24, Rhonee Shea Pal '24 and Maddi Barney '27 for women's lacrosse

Alyssa Dybacz '25, Audrey Benderski '26 and Arianna Exarchakis '27 for softball

The department also had two student-athletes and one coach earn **NEC All-Conference major awards**.

Peter Hatton '25 was named the men's tennis Player of the Year and Lytoya Baker '24 was named the women's basketball Defensive Player of the Year, while women's basketball head coach Mary Grimes was named the Coach of the Year.



Milestone Gift



A \$1 million gift has established the Wright III '85 and Cathy Lassiter Endowed Head Men's Basketball Coach. The gift is the first seven-figure athletic gift in College history and marks the first time a coaching position has been endowed. During the first four month of 2024, the College has received one eight-figure gift and four seven-figure gifts.

"We are profoundly grateful to Wright and Cathy for this milestone gift," said Jim Joseph '83, Ed.D. '23, vice president for advancement and innovation and dean of the Madden College of Business and Economics. "They have been longtime supporters of the College and this endowed fund will allow Le Moynes to attract and retain top coaching talent long into the future."

Wright Lassiter was a member of the men's basketball team while he attended Le Moynes, and was inducted into the Gold Wave Hall of Fame in 2014. A member of the board of trustees from 2012 to 2021, Wright currently serves as chief executive officer of Common Spirit Health in Chicago, Ill., the largest Catholic hospital system and the second largest nonprofit health system in the U.S. Before that, he served as president and CEO of the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, Mich. Cathy, a psychologist, spent most of her career as a licensed specialist in school psychology with the Dallas Independent School District. She has also worked to advance the mission of several nonprofit organizations, including Women of Tomorrow and the Charles Wright African American Museum, both located in Detroit, Mich.



A group of alumni who were part of International House while Bosch was the organization's moderator attended the Le Moyne in New York Gala honoring him.

Academic Excellence

William J. Bosch, S.J., Teaching and Learning Center

Generations of Le Moyne students remember William Bosch, S.J., as a consistent and affirming presence in their lives. Over the course of his nearly 60-year career at the College, Bosch served as history professor, International House moderator and College archivist. Bosch was a friend, teacher and mentor to many, but most Dolphins know him best as a source of inspiration. Padre, as he was known, helped to set young men and women on the Heights on the path of faith and justice. In turn, they were humbled by his deep belief in them and touched by the joy he clearly derived from sharing his faith with others.

At this year's Le Moyne in New York Gala, President Linda LeMura, Ph.D., and Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Jim Hannan, Ph.D., announced that the work of this gentle Wisconsin native will live on in perpetuity through the William J. Bosch, S.J., Teaching and Learning Center. The center was made possible through an anonymous \$7 million gift to the College. It represents an important investment in academic excellence, which is a key priority of Le Moyne's *Tomorrow Together* strategic plan.

"Given all we have heard this evening, who better than Father Bosch to serve as the namesake of a center that will provide enduring value to the College he served so diligently and graciously," LeMura said during the event. "His lasting impact on generations of Le Moyne students is immeasurable and this center is a fitting tribute to his legacy."



"... who better than Father Bosch to serve as the namesake of a center that will provide enduring value to the College he served so diligently and graciously."

Linda LeMura, Ph.D.

A director for the Bosch Center will be hired over the summer. Once operational for the 2024-2025 academic year, the center's initiatives will include:

- Providing new faculty with extensive mentoring in the Ignatian pedagogical paradigm and its relevance to Le Moyne's essential characteristics.
- Creating faculty learning communities open to all faculty for collaboration and exploration at the intersection of teaching and research.
- Sponsoring faculty fellows to serve as teacher-scholars dedicated to increased expertise in innovative pedagogy.
- Forging professional development and continuous learning initiatives to enhance teaching and help faculty gain new perspectives on their chosen vocation.

"This is an outstanding example of the ongoing generosity of Le Moyne's alumni, who give back to the College in so many ways, big and small," said Jim Joseph '83, Ed.D. '23, Le Moyne's vice president for advancement and innovation and dean of the Madden College of Business and Economics. "This anonymous gift is a reflection of the transformative education for which Le Moyne is known, and will ensure that future generations of students are afforded the same opportunities."



DON'T GIVE UP | This spring College leaders made an announcement that will impact every single member of the Le Moyne community. Thanks to a historic \$12 million gift from James Carroll '66, Ph.D., and his wife, Mary, for the first time in its 76-year history, Le Moyne's College of Arts and Sciences has a name. It is now the James J. and Mary A. Carroll College of Arts and Sciences. The staff of *New Heights* sat down to talk with Jim Carroll about his time on the Heights, his gift to the College and the future of higher education.

With all of the wonderful causes you could have chosen to support, why did you select Le Moyne?

The short answer is that because Le Moyne totally changed my life. My father died about 10 days after I graduated from high school in 1962, and it was extremely difficult to imagine how my family was going to pay for Le Moyne. Tuition and room and board came to \$900 a year. That may seem miniscule by today's standards, but at the time I had a summer job with the City of Binghamton that only paid me \$9.18 a day. My mother sold some stocks that, together with the money I had saved, was enough to pay for the first year in full. (I don't think the College had ever seen a check for a full year's tuition before.) I worked throughout my time at Le Moyne, first for the City of Syracuse's Department of Recreation and then in the dish room of the cafeteria on campus. My economic struggle resulted in an academic struggle because I had to spend so much time working. I don't want future Le Moyne students to have to experience that.

How did your years at Le Moyne shape you into the person you are today?

It's true what they say about Jesuit education. It prepares the whole person – academically, intellectually and spiritually. That was important to me because I went right from Le Moyne to Syracuse University,

completing my master's degree in social studies education in 1970 and my doctorate in social sciences at SU's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs in 1985. I initially planned on pursuing a doctoral degree in South Asian studies, but after looking at the job market, I ended up moving in a more general direction. That served me well.

Is there a particular moment during your time at Le Moyne that stands out to you as being especially transformative?

One of the most transformative classes I had was with Ed Conan, J.D. He taught constitutional law and structured it so that it was a two-semester course. He pointed out that most lawyers only get one three-credit-hour course in constitutional law, so thanks to him I had a very strong background in constitutional law. In fact, his courses eventually led me to attend summer institutes at Cornell Law School. From there I created Project LEGAL, Law-related Education Goals for American Leadership. I developed a curriculum for elementary, middle and high school teachers on U.S. Supreme Court cases that achieved New York state and eventually national validation. I brought Project LEGAL into 34 states, and was also able to travel to Hungary and Croatia to conduct workshops on constitutional law there. A lot of this ties back to the influence Ed Conan had on me. He even served as a presenter at a



workshop I held, along with former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark and former Syracuse Chief of Police Thomas Sardino.

What do you hope Jesuit education will aspire to be in the 21st century?

Education in the 21st century is going to go more and more in the direction of things such as artificial intelligence. We have no idea of all the possibilities that are going to come about as a result of AI. It's going to totally revolutionize education. Some people fear it, but I look at it with optimism. It's going to enable us to do so many things we never dreamed imaginable.

What legacy do you hope to leave to your alma mater?

As I mentioned I had to struggle economically as a student, which impacted my academic achievements. I'm hoping that the \$6 million in scholarships that this gift has established will help students who may have initially thought they couldn't afford a

Le Moyne education to reconsider. I want them to see that it is a real possibility – and that they will not have to work two part-time jobs while also managing their coursework.

What do the liberal arts mean to you?

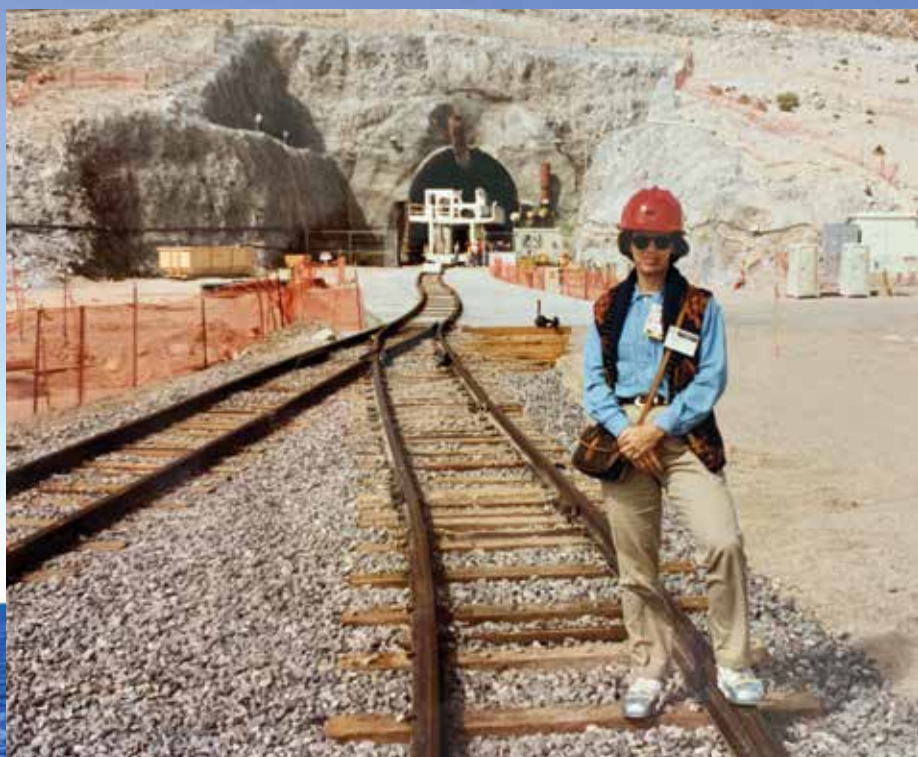
The liberal arts provide you with so many opportunities. In my case, I was interested in both political science and history, and was one of two students who graduated from Le Moyne in 1966 with a dual degree in those fields. It gave me a wonderful background for everything that came next for me. Contrast that, for example, with someone who studies biology with the noble goal of becoming a doctor, but doesn't venture beyond that field and has to quit when things become difficult.

If you had a personal motto, what would be?

Don't give up. There were times at Le Moyne when I felt like giving up, and I am so glad that I didn't.

POWER PLAYERS

by Molly K. McCarthy



Susan Stratton '78 and **Veronica Ung-Kono '18** share an innate sense of curiosity, a commitment to equity, and a desire to propel their communities toward the future. These characteristics led the alumnae, at different times, to the same critical field. Both Stratton and Ung-Kono have dedicated their professional lives to studying the ways in which we create, transmit and use the energy that powers our society. Before retiring in 2023, Stratton spent 45 years in this arena, working for public and nonprofit organizations, most recently the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, before opening her own consultancy. She has focused her efforts on efficiency of production and end use of electricity and natural gas in homes and businesses. Ung-Kono is a public interest attorney and clean energy transmission policy specialist at the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), the largest private, nonprofit conservation education and advocacy organization in the United States.

Their work, which lies at the intersection of energy transition, conservation and social justice, is deeply rewarding and seemingly never ending. It is also extremely time sensitive if we are to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change. Both Stratton and Ung-Kono agree that we are at an inflection point when it comes to the environment, with Ung-Kono citing a recent NatureServe study that found that more than one-third of biodiversity in the United

States is at risk of disappearing. However, they say, there are reasons to be optimistic.

First and foremost, both are buoyed by the fact that clean energy is, appropriately, seen as a public priority. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 represent the two largest investments in clean energy infrastructure in American history. They include provisions that experts say will accelerate the deployment of clean energy technologies, reduce global emissions, lower energy prices, and build a reliable and affordable energy sector. (The consulting firm Wood McKenzie estimated that

the IRA alone could triple the nation's renewable energy capacity over the next decade.) Local leaders are now applying for funding for projects that they have long known would make their communities more sustainable and energy efficient, but have simply not had the means to undertake. Some of those grants have been used to hire community energy managers, others to retrofit critical buildings or equipment. Stratton has played a role in this work, volunteering to read applications that local leaders have submitted to request federal funding. She has been inspired and heartened by so many of them, particularly ones that would support schools in low-income communities and other projects in tribal and rural areas.

Beyond these investments, Stratton and Ung-Kono say the future of clean energy is also being shaped by changes in the ways in which we talk about it and, critically, who is part of those conversations. For too long, many people, including those belonging to environmental justice, tribal and rural communities, were labeled as "hard to serve." In reality they were often overlooked and, thus, underserved. That is key to Ung-Kono's work at the NWF. She and her colleagues believe that anyone who enjoys the outdoors should help inform the projects funded by the IIJA and IRA in their communities because they know the areas so well and have the greatest stake in ensuring that the projects are successful. As she puts it, "We have an obligation to the people who live with the wildlife in these ecosystems to advocate on their behalf and share their stories, particularly as resources are being developed that will have a direct impact on them."

Both Stratton and Ung-Kono say that a significant part of their work also involves encouraging people to change their behavior and how they think about energy. That can take time. People may be resistant, for instance, to move from a top-load to a more efficient front-load washing machine or from a gas-powered vehicle to an electric one. Guiding these transitions is difficult work. However, it is work that their Jesuit education, which honed their critical thinking and communication skills, prepared them to undertake. Their vocation is one that touches everything from the environment, to public health, to the economy, to social justice, and about which they can feel good.

"We recognize that there's no impact-free way of living, and that's OK," Ung-Kono says. "That's not something we should be ashamed of, but we must ensure that where impact occurs, it occurs responsibly." 🌱



(left) Veronica Ung-Kono tours the Block Island offshore wind farm in Rhode Island. (left inset) Susan Stratton, along with a group of government electric utility regulators, inspects the nuclear waste storage tunnels in Yucca Mountain in Nevada. The tunnels had been partially drilled but ultimately the federal government never approved its use due to its location on a fault line. It now stands sealed. (right) Susan Stratton was executive director of the Energy Center of Wisconsin, now merged with another firm and renamed Slipstream, from 2001 through 2011.

Expanding

There are Le Moyne alumni living and working around the world – imaginative, driven and service-oriented individuals whose trajectories have brought them to the farthest reaches of the globe. They call places like Venezuela, India, Australia and Greece home. There are graduates of the College who have explored the Namib Desert in Southern Africa, meditated with Buddhist monks in Japan, and competed in the Iron Man in Lake Placid, N.Y. But there were none who had, in the words of poet John Gillespie Magee, “slipped the surly bonds of Earth,” leaving behind the cocoon of rock, water and gravity we call home. Until now.



Horizons

by Molly K. McCarthy



NASA astronaut Jeanette Epps, mission specialist of NASA's SpaceX Crew-8 mission.



NASA astronaut and Le Moyne trustee Jeanette Epps '92 is making history as the first Dolphin in space. A physics major on the Heights, Epps is serving from March to September 2024 as a mission specialist aboard the International Space Station, which she has called “the earth’s largest floating lab,” some 250 miles above the surface of our home planet. The Syracuse, N.Y., native is part of a team of experts maintaining the ISS and its equipment and conducting a variety of experiments. In fact, they are part of those experiments. The group’s aim is to learn more about how living in space impacts the human body so that it can help prepare other scientists and explorers to return to the moon and travel even deeper into space, perhaps to Mars. Every day Epps models the Jesuit spirit of inquiry, asking questions that have guided the U.S. space administration for nearly 60 years and man for millennia: What is out there? How do we get there? And, perhaps most important, what can we learn by getting there – or by trying to get there – that will improve life for all of humanity?

Epps has long possessed an insatiable curiosity and a deep concern for those around her, rooted in her faith and nurtured by her family. She has spoken publicly about her childhood love of travel, exploration, and even atlases and maps. Epps and her twin sister, Janet '92, were



children when their older brother suggested that they could one day become aerospace engineers. As Epps later recounted, “That one seed grew and grew and never left me.” Now she is in the midst of her first mission to space. Prior to the launch, she agreed that the prospect of living on the ISS was a “pinch-me” moment for someone who “dreamed about doing so many things” as a child.

Epps brings with her to this mission a rich array of personal and professional experiences. A physics major at Le Moyne, she went on to earn a doctorate in aerospace engineering at the University of Maryland, where she worked on materials applications for rotorcrafts and helicopters. After that she spent two years in the Scientific Research Lab at Ford Motor Co., contributing to studies on collision location detection and countermeasure systems that resulted in the granting of a U.S. patent. She next joined the Central Intelligence Agency, where she served for seven years as a technical intelligence officer before becoming a NASA astronaut in 2009. Since then, she has received extensive training in the Russian language, flying a T-38 aircraft and wilderness survival. In one interview, she described spending nine days living undersea off the coast of Florida, which she called “practice living below the earth in order to live above it.”



(counter clockwise from top left) Jeanette Epps seated inside a T-38 trainer jet at Ellington Field in Houston, Texas.

Epps training under water.

SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket with the company’s Dragon spacecraft is rolled out to the launch pad.



Q&A From Space

Jeanette Epps discussed life and work aboard the orbital outpost during an in-flight interview on April 18 with students from Le Moyne College and the Syracuse City School District. Below is a sampling of the questions the Le Moyne students asked.

Patricia: What type of training did you do to prepare for weightlessness?

Epps: There are several ways that you can prepare. One of the ways I liked to do it was SCUBA diving. SCUBA diving and floating in space are very similar. There were times I was floating around the station up here and I felt like I was under water again. We also have a giant pool at Johnson Space Center called the Neutral Buoyancy Lab that has a mock-up of the space center. I spent about 440 hours under water practicing space walk training.

Sanette: What are some of the more interesting research projects you are doing aboard the International Space Station.

Epps: We are the hands and eyes of all the researchers on Earth. Just today I was working in a facility called the electrostatic levitation furnace where we look at different materials. The other day I was working on something called the code atom lab where we can take materials and different particles and we can cool them down to some of the coolest temperatures in the universe. I got to take that apart and put it back together on behalf of some great researchers in the U.S. The people aboard are great experiments, too! We’re looking at bones, at our hearts, our eyes, all sorts of body parts, in order to figure out great countermeasures to get our physiology to last longer outside the earth’s protection.

Ryan: In what ways do you work with others aboard the International Space Station?

Epps: You may be the smartest person in the room, but if you can’t get along with other people, you’re not going to go very far. I was just working with [a colleague] packing up the SpaceX 30 cargo vehicle so it can go back to Earth. We work very closely here. Our crew quarters are in one node and we even sleep closely. So teamwork is a part of what we do here in order to get our jobs done. It’s a requirement.

Belal: Which college class do you think has helped you to most throughout your space mission?

Epps: I really do think that my education at Le Moyne and at the University of Maryland combined to give me the proper mindset to become an operational researcher. I think that all the classes that you take, from religion, to philosophy, to the core curriculum, form the way you’re going to think about things in the future. You’re not going to remember everything, but all of them contribute to you becoming a better scientist because developing the creative side of your brain helps with the logical side.

John: What was your biggest takeaway from your college experience?

Epps: College courses are there to help frame your mind and help you to teach yourself to learn, so everything you learn there will help you with learning anything on your own. I learned a lot about the Core Curriculum along with physics and the graduate school curriculum, but I also worked with many different students from all over the world. Your mindset changes and it teaches you to be a lifelong learner.

Lizzie: How did you feel when you learned you would finally be going up in space for this mission?

Epps: It was surreal, and I told people at that time, “I’ll believe it when I’m sitting on the rocket and taking off.” One of the most memorable things for me was when we felt the rocket start propelling us up. It was like a bunch of kids on an amusement park ride. If you could have heard the screams – we were just like kids!

Harsha: How has your engineering background affected the way you maneuver through the intricacies of space exploration?

Epps: Engineering is a primary thing, but not necessarily the only thing. We are the hands and ears of the research science on the ground. With the equipment they send up, understanding how things go together and how to take them apart without breaking them, and getting the data they need out to them is one of the ways engineering has helped me tremendously. But all of us up hear have multiple talents. So, learn your trade and be good at it, but also be curious about everything else as well.

Watch the video ▶



At Le Moyne, news of Epps' mission was celebrated with members of the campus community gathering to watch a recording of the launch wearing T-shirts emblazoned with Epps' image.

Among those who are following the mission is Professor of Chemistry Emeritus Carmen Giunta, Ph.D., who taught Epps during her time on the Heights.

"Seeing her, for many years now, as a member of one of the most selective meritocracies I know of, the astronaut corps, makes me proud to know her and to have taught her," he said. "And I am beyond pleased to see her achieve what must have been a dream and goal for many years, her first trip to space."

Giunta stressed that since being named to NASA's astronaut corps, Epps has conducted herself with grace, bringing honor to herself and to the organization. His first wish for her during her maiden trip to the ISS is simply that she enjoy "a safe mission," noting that "space travel is by no means a routine venture." Beyond that, Giunta hopes that Epps finds the mission "as fulfilling as she had imagined."

"Going into space is a big dream, obviously one that

she has had for many years," he said. "I hope that she finds the experience to be everything she wanted it to be, and worth the physical and mental efforts she has expended to get to the launch pad."

Those sentiments were echoed by Sharon Kinsman Salmon '78, who serves with Epps on the College's board of trustees and has become a friend of hers.

"I hope she enjoys every minute of her mission," Kinsman Salmon said. "I know it will be a lot of hard work and sacrifice, but I'm sure there will be opportunities to enjoy the beauty of being in space."

Epps models for today's students what women in the field of science, technology, engineering and math, commonly known as STEM, can accomplish.

"We sometimes feel that people who reach the heights that Dr. Epps has achieved have drunk different water than us or have special DNA," said Terri Mitchell '85, founder of the College's Stempower program. "Dr. Epps demonstrates that the water in Syracuse and at Le Moyne College are good foundations for greatness. I also love the lesson that even high achievers experience setbacks and have the resilience and grit to continue forward."





A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket carrying the company's Dragon spacecraft launches NASA's SpaceX Crew-8 mission to the International Space Station with NASA astronauts Matthew Dominick, Michael Barratt and Jeanette Epps and Roscosmos cosmonaut Alexander Grebenkin aboard at 10:53 p.m. EST on Sunday, March 3, 2024, from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. NASA's SpaceX Crew-8 mission is the eighth crew rotation mission with SpaceX to the station, and the ninth flight of Dragon with people as part of the agency's Commercial Crew Program.

(inset above) Jeanette Epps is pictured training inside a Dragon mockup crew vehicle at the company's headquarters in Hawthorne, Calif. Credit: SpaceX

(inset below) Epps donned her Le Moyne garb for a special shout-out to her fellow Dolphins on Dolphy Day.



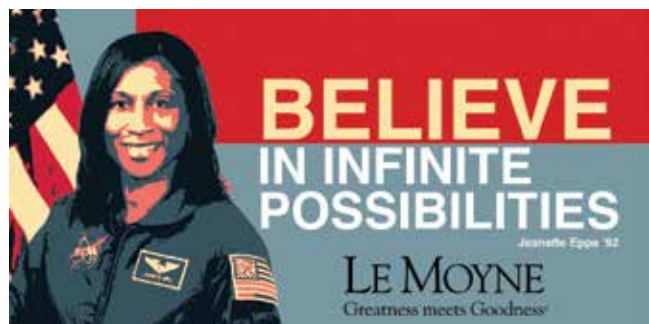
Epps serves as a source of inspiration for Annie Coppala, a third-year student from Tully, N.Y., who is studying environmental science systems with a focus on pre-engineering. Coppala has herself dreamed of becoming an astronaut and exploring the cosmos since she was a child. She is in awe of space as “a [natural] physical and mathematical phenomenon” and wants to better understand that phenomenon. Being an astronaut would give her the opportunity to capture “magnificent moments firsthand.”

“[Gaining] a new perspective outside the [confines] of our atmosphere and performing research to benefit our planet ... would be a dream come true for me,” she said.

“Dr. Epps was a large part of my decision to attend Le Moyne College. Growing up in a small town, I struggled a lot with self-confidence. Dr. Epps restores that confidence in me [as] another woman from Central New York. The fact that I get to walk the same halls as she once did is an honor, and she will always be a hero of mine. Her support for young women in this field keeps me going at times when I feel alone in a lab or at a job interview. Though she has no idea who I am, I am so incredibly proud of her for all the work she has done to get to where she is now. She makes me proud to be a Dolphin and continues to inspire me to extend the horizons.”

For her part, Epps made it clear that she is savoring every moment of this experience. It is clearly not something that she takes for granted. Shortly before she left for the ISS, Epps expressed her gratitude for the places her professional journey has taken her in an interview with Andrew Donovan of News-Channel 9, saying in part, “It’s not lost on me how incredible how many of the things I’ve been able to do were and are.”

Epps is joined on the mission by commander Matthew Dominick, pilot Michael Barratt, and Roscosmos cosmonaut mission specialist Alexander Grebenkin.





“[Gaining] a new perspective outside the [confines] of our atmosphere and performing research to benefit our planet ... would be a dream come true for me. Dr. Epps was a large part of my decision to attend Le Moyne College.”

Annie Coppala '25

(left, top) Environmental Science Systems student Annie Coppala

(left, middle) Expedition 70 Flight Engineers Mike Barratt, Matthew Dominick, and Jeanette Epps enjoy breakfast on a Sunday morning inside the International Space Station's Unity Module.

(left, bottom) Jeanette Epps installs a small satellite orbital deployer inside the Kibo laboratory module's airlock. Packed inside the device are three CubeSats for deployment into Earth orbit for a variety of communications and technology studies.



(left to right) Roscosmos Cosmonaut Alexander Grebenkin and NASA Astronauts Michael Barratt, Matthew Dominick and Jeanette Epps pose for a photo during their Crew Equipment Interface Test at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The goal of the training is to rehearse launch-day activities and get a close look at the spacecraft that will take them to the International Space Station. Credit: SpaceX

A LASTING GIFT OF IRISH INTELL

Eileen Patricia (McMahon) Zogby '67 Education Fund



lives and displacing two million more, including Eileen's great-grandparents. Following Eileen's first visit there in the late 1980s, Ireland would become part of her, and she would return nearly annually. Most significantly, in the summer of 2018, Jim and Eileen brought their entire family there in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Jim Zogby '67 and Eileen (McMahon) Zogby '67 met during their first week as students on the Heights. As Jim would later recall, he was struck the first time he saw Eileen. She was walking down a set of stairs and heading to the cafeteria. After dating throughout their time at Le Moyne, the duo went on to build a partnership and a marriage that endured for 51 years. They shared the joy of five children and 13 grandchildren, along with a love of travel and a commitment to social justice. The couple's passports reveal that their adventures brought them to Lebanon, Jordan, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, Germany, France and Ireland.

The latter held a special place in Eileen's heart, as her family has deep roots on the Emerald Isle. She carefully studied the nation's history, particularly the Famine that struck the country in the 1840s, claiming an estimated one million

Following Eileen's untimely passing in March 2020, Jim wanted to honor her life. He could think of no better way to do so than by establishing the Eileen Patricia (McMahon) Zogby '67 Education Fund at Le Moyne.

The fund primarily supports two initiatives.

First, it enables the College to host an annual lecture. Arranged by Kate Costello-Sullivan, Ph.D., professor of modern Irish literature and founding director of the Irish literature program at Le Moyne, the lecture series is quickly becoming a high-profile event on the Irish studies circuit. Featuring well-established scholars of Irish history and culture, the lectures alternate between the history of the Famine and explorations of other aspects of Irish-American history and culture – the two particular



(top left) Jim and Eileen Zogby. (above) Eileen on a trip to Ireland.

LECT

by Molly K. McCarthy



Two posters from the Eileen Patricia (McMahon) Zogby '67 lecture series.

interests of Eileen Zogby. Costello-Sullivan works closely with Jane Brown '77, director of stewardship, to advertise and present the lectures each year, ensuring that as many community members, students and alumni as possible are aware of this exciting opportunity to learn more about Ireland, as Eileen would have wished.

The most recent lecture was titled "The Presence of Absence: Song, Food and Longing in Irish America" and was delivered by Sean Williams, Ph.D., a faculty member at The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash. While the Eileen Patricia McMahon Zogby Class of 1967 Irish Lecture is traditionally held on Le Moyne's campus, this one was distinct: In collaboration with the Irish Embassy, Costello-Sullivan arranged for it to take place at the residence of the Irish Ambassador to the United States, the Honorable Geraldine Byrne Nason, in Washington, D.C. Hosting the lecture at the Ambassador's residence not only added political and historical context to the event, but it also allowed members of the Zogby family, all of whom live in the Washington

area, to attend. Previous lectures have addressed emigration and "coffin ships" during the Great Famine, heroes of the Famine, and the impact of Irish immigrants on American democracy.

Second, the fund provides the College with a specific means to provide financial support to students who want to study in Ireland. The first student to benefit from this generous fund, biological sciences major Kayden Feinman '24 studied at Mary Immaculate College in Limerick in the fall of 2023. Through the lecture series and the opportunities for student travel, the fund has served to advance the mission of the College's Irish literature program overall.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Zogby family for the support they offer to the Irish literature program and to our students who wish to study in Ireland," Costello-Sullivan said. "It is a privilege that they have entrusted us with honoring Eileen's memory in this way. Jane Brown and I will continue striving to ensure that this annual event does justice to her interests, and to her memory." □

Dolphin Stories

VENTURING INTO THE IMPOSSIBLE

Science is propelled by questions – some practical, others theoretical.

That maxim guided Dennis Bier's long career as a physician, researcher and scholar. A member of the Le Moyne College Class of 1962, Bier served as a professor at the Baylor College of Medicine, where he directed the Children's Nutrition Research Center (CNRC). For more than 30 years, he led a team of approximately 50 faculty members investigating the nutritional needs of children, as well as those of pregnant and nursing women. The work of these faculty scientists combined biochemistry, human molecular genetics, neurobiology, eating behavior, plant and animal science, physiology, essential nutrient requirements and more, with the ultimate goal of improving health outcomes for people around the world.

Bier retired early this year. Shortly before he did, the Le Moyne alumnus reflected upon what he wanted his professional legacy to be. There was much from which he could choose. In addition to his work at Baylor and the CNRC, he is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and a Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He served as chairman of the Food and Nutrition Board of the Institute of Medicine and president of the American Society for Nutrition. He contributed to more than 300 scientific publications. However, instead of



(left) Dennis Bier '62, M.D.



pointing to any of those achievements, Bier recalled these words from author, futurist and inventor Arthur C. Clark: "The only way of discovering the limits of the possible is to venture a little way past them into the impossible."

In many ways that philosophy guided Bier's rich professional life. He began his career wanting to understand how nutrients work from "the inside out," or, put another way, how children who are ill and not eating "feed" themselves to maintain the metabolic processes necessary for survival. That certainly aligns with the Jesuit spirit of inquiry and with what he learned at Le Moyne about his responsibility to others. Now that he has retired, he hopes that the people who succeed him will continue to "ask questions at the edge of science." In the 20th century scientists mapped the human genome. Bier

hopes that in the 21st century they will take that one step further, and come to better understand how environmental factors, the air that we breathe, the food we consume, and a multitude of bioactive agents in the environment, transduce their signals to alter human gene expression.

Bier is, at his core, someone who has always been curious about what drives the human thirst for productivity, contribution and knowledge, and the ethical and moral components of their discoveries. He summarized his advice to the next generation of doctors, nutritionists, biologists and epidemiologists in a chapter he contributed to *The Annual Review of Nutrition*, writing in part: "Do what you like to do ... Never be afraid to admit when you are wrong ... Assume that you will have to work very hard."

by Molly K. McCarthy

Alumni Achievements



TRANSFORMATIVE SERVICE

1996 ▶ Travis Hayden of Manlius, N.Y., was honored with the Society for Dermatology Physician Assistants (SDPA) Joe Monroe Lifetime Achievement Award for his transformative contribution to the field of dermatology. Hayden was recognized for his exceptional commitment to advancing the dermatology PA profession (with 19 years of unbroken volunteer leadership service to the SDPA) and his role in the creation and publication of the *Journal of Dermatology for Physician Assistants*, which he established along with his wife, **Jennifer (Casey) Hayden '96**. Hayden is a U.S. Navy veteran and a professor of practice in Le Moyne College's Department of Physician Assistant Studies.

2024 OBIE AWARD

1985 ▶ John Douglas Thompson of Brooklyn, N.Y., won a 2024 Obie Award for Sustained Achievement in Performance for his roles as Hamm in *Endgame* (Irish Repertory Theatre) and Claudius in *Hamlet* (The Public Theater). Held annually since 1956 and presented by *The Village Voice*, the Obie Awards are often recognized as the most prestigious awards for Off-Broadway productions.

1958

Louis "Scotty" Scotellaro of Rutland, Vt., is the host of a monthly public affairs program, *The Geppetto Room*, which airs on PEG TV. Scotellaro, whose background is in marketing and communications, uses this platform to encourage Vermonters to reflect on how they can positively transform the places where they live and work. Episodes of the show are available on Youtube. Scotellaro is also a regular contributor to *The Rutland Herald*.

1969

Elizabeth Hogan of Groton, Conn., was named a "Community Cheerleader" by *The Day*, the local newspaper.

1975

Daniel Barrett of Newark, N.Y., retired on Dec. 31, 2023, after serving for 14 years as a county judge and Supreme Court Justice in Wayne County, N.Y.

1981

Daniel Meluni of Syracuse, N.Y., retired from Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield, where he worked for 24 years as a learning and development specialist.

1983

Christopher Delello of East Amherst, N.Y., is the associate vice president of human resources at the University at Buffalo.



Todd Everleth '85 signed with the Pecos Professional Baseball League as the field manager and head coach of the Northe Platte 80s based out of Northe Platte, Neb.

1985

Patrick Domaratz of Fairport, N.Y., is the learning and development manager for the 1,400 employees of the eight agencies that comprise Catholic Charities – Diocese of Rochester.

Todd Everleth of Pittsburgh, N.Y., signed with the Pecos Professional Baseball League as the field manager and head coach of the Northe Platte 80s based out of Northe Platte, Neb.

Mary Graham of Syracuse, N.Y., is the associate dean of faculty affairs at the Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics at Syracuse University.

Peter Paige of Albany, N.Y., was named the inaugural chief clinical officer at UVA Health. In this role, Paige will be responsible for overseeing system-wide patient care and clinical operations.

1986

Kevin Hough of Fulshear, Texas, was appointed as interim executive vice president and chief accounting officer at U.S. Silica, a global industrial minerals and logistics leader

Timothy Murphy of Camillus, N.Y., was selected for inclusion in "Upstate New York Super Lawyers" for 2023.

1987

Larry Ford, O.F.M. of Hapeville, Ga., was named to the board of trustees at St. Bonaventure University. Ford is the secretary of the Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe of the Franciscan Friars. He previously served in various roles with the Holy Name of Jesus – Saint Gregory the Great parish in New York City, including as the pastor of a multicultural parish on the Upper West Side.

1989

Christine Parker of New York, N.Y., is the chief customer officer at Quantive, a global software and service company.

1990

Brenda (Skurski) Mulhern of Manlius, N.Y., is the senior accountant at Le Moyne College.

1992

Andrea (Murray) McCormick of Holland, Pa., joined Stockwell Elastomerics as director of customer service.

Tricia Patterson of Watertown, N.Y., is the director of administration for the Disabled Persons Action Organization Foundation.

Rosario Vizzie of Los Angeles, Calif., was promoted to partner of Hawkins Parnell, a national defense litigation firm. Vizzie represents developers and general contractors, as well as subcontractors and product manufacturers, in construction defect litigation.

1993

Michael Blanchard of Annandale, Va., is the director of student services at Charles County Public Schools.



The Perfect Duet

A snowstorm didn't stop **Christine Liggio, M.S. '19** from traveling nearly 80 miles to hear one of her favorite artists, Peter Mulvey, perform live at Caffe Lena in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., one winter night in 2004. And thank goodness it didn't. If the weather had derailed her plans, she would not have met **Tom Baron '89**, a fellow Mulvey fan who was also in the audience. He was impressed by her fortitude – and her musical taste. The two struck up a conversation during the show's intermission that, as it turns out, has endured for the past two decades.

"Music brought us together and has always been at the heart of our relationship and a thread throughout our years together," recalled Christine, who works in Le Moyne's Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement.

In addition to an appreciation for music, Christine and Tom found that they shared a love for travel, a close connection to their friends and family, and a deep respect for one another. Tom is inspired by Christine's "willingness to take on any challenge – and

jump into any adventure." Christine admires Tom's "thoughtfulness and care and concern" for the people closest to him, as well as his capacity to "embrace moments of joy wherever he can find them."

The duo was married in September of 2023 at St. Mary's Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Cooperstown, N.Y. Tom recalls it as one of the "best days of my life," surrounded by the people who love him and Christine the most. Not surprisingly, music played an important role in their nuptials. After the ceremony, the pair walked down the aisle to the Beatles' *All You Need is Love*. Later, during their reception, the newlyweds surprised their guests by performing a duet of *Falling Slowly* from one of their favorite musicals, *Once*.

"It was a beautiful, joyful, fun and magical day that went so smoothly," Christine said. "I think it was a true reflection of us and a celebration of our love and relationship, but it was also a reflection of our friends and family and the role they've played in our journey."

ON THE PATHWAY



Anthony Maggi '16, '21 and **Rachelle Walters '18, '20** count themselves among those fortunate enough to have found love on the Heights. The duo was first introduced in 2016, when Anthony was a senior and Rachelle was a sophomore. They found they had a great deal in common, including several close friends, a love of chicken tenders (which they shared on their first date at Tully's) and, perhaps most important, the capacity to make one another laugh. Anthony and Rachelle remained together throughout their time at Le Moyne and as they launched their careers in human resources and occupational therapy, respectively.

In December of 2021, the alumni returned to campus. They were ostensibly there to take a walk and reminisce about the place that helped bring them together. However, when they arrived at the pathway extending from the Panasci Family Chapel to Grewen Hall, Anthony dropped to one knee and asked Rachelle to marry him. She immediately said yes.

The pair wed in September of 2023 at Tailwater Lodge in Pulaski, N.Y. The day was full of absorbing, beautiful moments. Chief among them was when the couple shared their first look and exchanged private vows before the ceremony, and when they toasted their nuptials with wine that Anthony's grandfather, whom he calls Nonno, made especially for the occasion. Anthony and Rachelle say that in 50 years they will remember the love and support they felt from their loved ones that day and the joy it brought to them. They are proof that Dolphins never swim alone.

Karen Buchholtz of Skaneateles, N.Y., is the manager of grant accounting at Le Moyne College.

Arleen (Whalen) Girard of Queensbury, N.Y., was promoted to senior vice president at Saratoga National Bank and Trust Company.

1994

Dan Corrou, S.J., of New York, N.Y., was invited to the Middle East Council of Churches gathering in Dubai. The conference was a focused reflection on safe migration through the Middle East. Corrou participated on a panel discussing the theological foundations of Christian response to migration.

Gregory Daly of Manasquan, N.J., works for the U.S. Census Bureau.

1995

Giavonni Lucas of Blacklick, Ohio, received the Man of the Year Award from Corporate Connections Nationwide's Associate Resource Group.

Jennifer (Luttman) Wendel of Crofton, Md., is the acting chief information officer at the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

1998

Lauren (Petrigala) Smythe of Freeport, N.Y., is a program analyst and executive assistant to the president at Systems Planning and Analysis, a

defense and space contractor based in Alexandria, Va.

1999

Deborah Finch of Camillus, N.Y., was appointed as the board president for the Hospice of Central New York and Hospice of the Finger Lakes operating board for 2023-2024.

Mary King of Syracuse, N.Y., was selected for inclusion in "Upstate New York Super Lawyers" for 2023.

Jessica Kling of Delmar, Md., is an administrative compliance associate at Peninsula Orthopedic Associates.

Mecca Marsh of Wilmington, Del., who serves as the chair of the Alumni Association Multicultural Committee, met up with fellow alumna **Renelle**

Tillman Brown '97 of Myrtle Beach, S.C., in the Poconos. Along with their spouses, they enjoyed a couples weekend.

2001

Ryan Barker of Liverpool, N.Y., is the director of student experience at the Syracuse University College of Law.

Ryan Crawford of Lockport, N.Y., is a grounds person at Le Moyne College.

Erin (McNeill) Radley of Clay, N.Y., is the director of finance at Barton and Loguidice, a consulting firm that provides technical assistance for public and private clients.

Marie (Holbrook) Zimmerman of Wynantskill, N.Y., is the new managing partner of KPMG's Albany office. Zimmerman started her career with KPMG



Alumni Bookshelf

1967 ▶ **Anne Lunkenheimer Johnston** of Mornington, Victoria, Australia, had her book, *Not Without My Passport: A Memoir*, published in May 2023.

1970 ▶ **Paul Kocak** of Syracuse, N.Y., recently published his 22nd and 23rd books, *Essential Tremors: Selected Poems* and *The Little Beige Book of Quotations*.

1970 ▶ **John Zogby** has a book coming out in September titled *Beyond the Horse Race: How to Read Polls and Why We Should*. In it, Zogby argues that those who focus only on who is leading and who is trailing miss the many ways that polls can help us understand the fundamentals of the electorate at any given time. The book is available for pre-order now. Watch your email for an announcement of a fall webinar with Zogby.

1974 ▶ **Linus Ward Walton Sr.** published his third book, *Our Point*, a collection of fiction stories loosely based on experiences in the Skaneateles Lake area. Prior to that, Walton published two other books of short stories, taking as a starting point a familiar Skaneateles connection.

1978 ▶ **John Morelli** of Fort Myers, Fla., published his first novel, *The Angel Theory*.

1991 ▶ **Francine (Annese) Apy** of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., is the author and publisher of *Brianna's Brave Day at School*. Apy was the publisher and a contributor for another book based on her mother's inspiring story, titled *Dominica's Story: A Life of Courage, Hope and Love*. Set against the backdrop of World War II, *Dominica's Story* is an emotional journey through love, loss and unimaginable strength. Proceeds from *Dominica's Story* will benefit the Center for Adoption Support and Education in Baltimore, Md. Available at Amazon or SoulfillingAdoption.com. *Read more about Apy on page 46.*

1994 ▶ **Keely (Harrington) Hutton** of Fairport, N.Y., had her third novel, *Don't Look Back*, published by FSG Macmillan. This novel was selected for the Young Adult Library Services Association 2023 Teens' Top 25 List, won the Crystal Kite Award and was named a Best Book of the Year for 2023 by Bank Street College of Education.

2000 ▶ **Tara Flint Taylor** of Portland, Ore., had her book, *Bone Wishing*, published.

2021 ▶ **Daniel Bonsangue** of Syracuse, N.Y., wrote his first book, *The Night Shift*.

Boston in 2001 as an associate in the audit practice. In her role as audit partner, she worked on financial statements and internal control audits for the states of New York and New Hampshire, as well as for colleges and universities. She served as Le Moyne's external lead audit partner during fiscal years 2019, 2020 and 2021.

2002

Nicole (Jones) Adams of Syracuse, N.Y., is the associate director of inclusion and belonging at Le Moyne College.

Kyla Clark of Laurel, Md., is a member of the City Council, representing Ward 2. In her free time, Clark serves as a mentor to young women and is an active member of Le Moyne's alumni association board, serving on the board's Multicultural Committee.

William Dustin of Oneida, N.Y., is the coordinator of university conferencing and events at SUNY Polytechnic Institute.

Sean Mills of Jacksonville, Fla., is the chief financial officer for northern region at Ballad Health.

2003

Desiree Bennett of Liverpool, N.Y., was promoted to principal at FustCharles.

Edward Harper of Schenectady, N.Y., was elected chair of the New York Insurance Association.

Christian Schlaerth of Forest City, Iowa, was awarded tenure at Waldorf University and will be an associate professor starting in the 2024-25 academic year. An article Schlaerth co-wrote, titled "Taking the Black Pill: Anomie, Perceived Social Death and the Incel Phenomenon Online," was published in the peer-reviewed academic journal *Deviant Behavior*.

2004

Patrick Hooks of Jamesville, N.Y., was promoted to general manager of Rekortan, part of Astro Turf Corporation.

Brian Potter of Syracuse, N.Y., was appointed to the board of directors of the American Red Cross of Central and Northern New York.

2006

Brian Buckley of Bethel, Conn., is an officer at the New Canaan Police Department.

Sidney Pond III of Watertown, N.Y., was appointed vice president for administration and finance at Jefferson Community College.

Michael Stevenson of Syracuse, N.Y., was appointed assistant director of purchasing for the City of Syracuse.

Nadeen Vella of Boston, Mass., received a 2024 Boston Business Women Award for Best Insurance Agent.



Radhy Miranda '11 was named to *Negocios Now's* prestigious "Latinos 40 Under 40" list, which acknowledges the exceptional leadership of young Latinos in the New York City tri-state area. Miranda is the program manager, U.S. equity and economic opportunity, for the Rockefeller Foundation.

2007

Christina Bobesky of Camillus, N.Y., is an associate professor, clinical mental health counseling at Le Moyne College.

2011

David Mariano of Liverpool, N.Y., was selected as a 2023 *CNY Business Journal* 40 Under Forty honoree.

Radhy Miranda of Brookfield, Conn., was named to *Negocios Now's* prestigious "Latinos 40 Under 40" list, which acknowledges the exceptional leadership of young Latinos in the New York City tri-state area. Miranda is the program manager, U.S. equity and economic opportunity, for the Rockefeller Foundation. He is also a member of the College's board of regents. Miranda is

married to Le Moyne alumna **Kirstie Reynoso-Miranda '10**.

2012

Marisa (Cavallaro) Norcross of Jamesville, N.Y., was promoted to chief operations officer at the Manufacturers Association of Central New York.

Jackie Perra of Liverpool, N.Y., is the payroll manager at Le Moyne College.

Jennifer (Richardson) Walck of Syracuse N.Y., was promoted to partner at Bowers CPAs and Advisors.

2013

Danielle (Fetsch) Kelly of Wentzville, Mo., is the contract recruiter at Style Search & Consulting LLC.

2014

Matthew Richard of Syracuse, N.Y., is observing 20 years as a staff member of the Syracuse City School District, where he is currently a grants procurement specialist. Richard is certified as a school district business leader by the New York State Education Department.

Raven Short of Sterling, Va., a social studies teacher and head girls varsity basketball coach at Briar Woods High School, was named the Region 5D Coach of the Year. Short led her team, the Lady Falcons, to the school's first-ever Basketball District Regular Season Title and Region Championship. The squad finished the season with a 25-2 record. Short thanked the school community for its support in a post on social media, writing: "I've

been blessed with fantastic players, parents, coaches and an amazing support system. I've loved every moment of this journey." Short played guard over the course of her 68-game career at Le Moyne.

Taylor (Bigelow) Sperazza of West Haven, Conn., was promoted to program coordinator of the Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at the University of New Haven. In addition, Bigelow was elected president of the Connecticut Association for Counselor Education and Supervision for the 2023-24 academic year.

2015

Christine Grayton of Medford, Mass., is a senior account manager for Nail Communications.

Travis Milliman of Stamford, Conn., is the performing arts librarian for the Greenwich Library. Milliman produces and manages the library's Performing Arts Event Series, as well as its Performing Arts Collection.

Bianna (Daniels) Vickery of Honeoye Falls, N.Y., is the senior staff clinician at UR Medicine.

2016

Kwasi Yeboah of Syracuse, N.Y., is the assistant director of first-year admission at Le Moyne College.

2017

Callum Donnelly of Syracuse, N.Y., is the head men's soccer coach at Le Moyne College.

Sarah Harmatuk of Syracuse, N.Y., recently graduated with a master's degree in information management and a Certificate of Advanced Study in information security management from Syracuse University's iSchool. Harmatuk is currently working at Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC as an IT support specialist.

Class notes continued on page 43

GUT CHECK

Eva Keohane '21 knows that you can't compare apples to oranges. She recently discovered something else. You can't compare apples to apples either. A native of Brewerton, N.Y., Keohane is pursuing a doctorate in agricultural chemistry at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. That means she spends a great deal of time in the lab conducting chemical analyses of different kinds of food. She's found that, depending on how and where they are grown, two fruits of the same variety can have "incredibly different" molecular compositions, bioactive compounds and nutrients. That, of course, can have a range of implications for human health, particularly what is known as the gut microbiome. It remains an up-and-coming field, with scientists like Keohane carefully studying the trillions of microorganisms that live inside the human body, and the ways in which those microorganisms impact everything from cognition to the regulation of the immune system.

The link between nutrition and wellness is something that has long fascinated Keohane. Both her father and mother's families owned farms, raising dairy cows and growing corn, respectively. That influenced Keohane in ways that she didn't fully appreciate when she was a child. However, by the time she was in high school, she realized that the hours she spent on her family's land had spurred her interest in science. That led her to Le Moyne, where she studied chemistry, and to the work she is doing now. One day Keohane may be analyzing urine or plasma samples for a nutritional study housed in Colorado State's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition. Another day she may be working on a paper about plant compounds known as polyphenols, which are found in foods like fruits, vegetables, tea and even dark chocolate.

Keohane was recently selected for the Future Leaders for Food and Agricultural Research Fellowship program, which provides funding and career training for doctoral students studying food and agriculture. There are 30 participants in her cohort. They conduct research in incredibly different fields, but share a common goal of progressing the fields of food and agriculture. It's a "close-knit group," Keohane says. They meet twice a year in person and weekly via Zoom to focus on developing skills that are not usually part of a traditional doctoral program. For example, how to present their research to a lay audience, work as part of a team, and communicate effectively.

Education is especially important to Keohane. Most people have only a vague understanding of the role the composition of their food plays in their overall health. Keohane would like to change that. In the future she hopes to use her analytical and laboratory skills to continue to investigate the human microbiome so that nutrition can be personalized for every body. It comes down to this, she says: "If you fuel yourself adequately and well, you can perform incredibly well and if you don't, it can really diminish your quality of life."



Photo credit: Emmalee Couturier by unsplash.com

Alumni Events

You won't know ...
unless we know!

The only way we get the word out about great events is by mail or email, so please email alumni@lemoyne.edu with your updated contact information. *You won't know unless we know!*

Visit lemoyne.edu/alumni to stay in touch with your Dolphin Family.



REUNION WEEKEND 2025

MAY 30 - JUNE 1, 2025

In addition to celebrating those whose class years end in "0" and "5," we will host special affinity reunions for legacy families, the Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP), African American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American Program (AHANA) and Voices of Power.



INSIGHTS FROM THE HEIGHTS

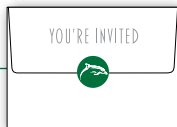
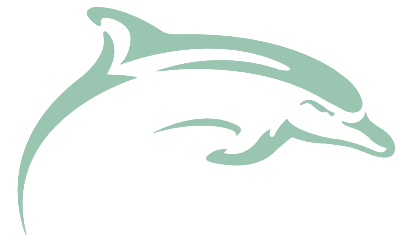
New webinars are being planned for fall 2024. They are designed to educate, inspire and enlighten members of our Le Moyne community. Visit lemoyne.edu/alumni/WebinarSeries to sign up for new webinars and listen to the past episodes.



FAMILY WEEKEND AND 'DOC' JOINER HOMECOMING

SEPT. 20-22, 2024

Enjoy some quality time with your 'Phin and learn about what his or her life is like on the Heights. Keep up with activities at lemoyne.edu/familyweekend for details about the weekend.



Don't get left out.

Do we have your current mailing address? Does your mail still go to your parents' address? Even though most of the College's communication is via email, we need to know where you live so that we can invite you to events in your area.



You've got mail ... or do you?

Have you received email from your alma mater? If not, we probably don't have your current address. **This is our primary means of communication**, so don't miss important announcements and invitations.



Share the joy.

Do you have a new job or have you received a promotion? Did you get married? Have a baby? Have a photo of you with fellow Dolphins? Award ... achievement ... honor? Let us know about it. Dolphins love to share in your joy.

Update your information with the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement
315-445-4563 | alumni@lemoyne.edu | or use this QR link ↓



[lemoyne_alumni](https://www.instagram.com/lemoyne_alumni)
 [alumni Network](#)

Follow us on Instagram and join our LinkedIn group to stay aware of upcoming events and to keep in touch with fellow Dolphins.

Love & Marriage

Ann Mulvehill '10 to
Charles Berger

Christine Buckley '12 to
Mitch Mullen-Khanzadian

Annika Carbacio '13 to
Fernando Cruz Jr.



Michael Kitts '13 to **Dana Anderson '16** (photo above)



Kyle Moyer '15, MBA '16 to
Kendall Corcoran '18
(photo above)

2018

Meghan Colabufo of Liverpool, N.Y., is the analyst of operations and contracts at Le Moyne.

Kevin Peñaloza of Elhurst, N.Y., is the operations coordinator at Columbia University School of Nursing.

2019

Angelica Clements of Syracuse, N.Y., is an annual giving officer at Le Moyne College.

Madison DeRita of Durham, Conn., is the youth sports director at the Meriden – New Britain – Berlin YMCA.

Lisa Geraci-Civiletto of Manlius, N.Y., is the director of special education (elementary) for the Liverpool Central School District.

Aura Jimenez of Bronx, N.Y., is the executive operations manager for the newly established New York City Mayor's Office of Equity and Racial Justice.

Nicholas Lutz of Elbridge, N.Y., is a security officer at Le Moyne College.

Michael O' Sullivan III of Middletown, Conn., joined the law firm of Neubert, Pepe and Monteith, P.C., as an associate.

2020

Natasha Beauchesne of Tully, N.Y., is the coordinator of government and foundation relations at Mercyhurst University in Erie, Pa. Prior to that, Beauchesne worked at Le Moyne College in a variety of roles, most recently as grant writer/marketing specialist.

2021

Salvatore Cesario of Canastota, N.Y., was promoted to assurance senior at Ernst and Young.

John Galimi of Syracuse, N.Y., is an internal auditor at BNY Mellon.

Shukri Mohamed of Syracuse, N.Y., is a student success coach at Le Moyne College.

Deanna Pomeroy of Albany, N.Y., is a media buyer at Pickney Hugo Group.

Samantha Rose of Syracuse, N.Y., is the grant analyst at Le Moyne College.

Rachel Salvetti of Fulton, N.Y., graduated from Rosemont College with a master's degree in publishing studies with a concentration

in editorial. As part of her degree, Salvetti worked as an intern for Marian Press, located at the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Mass. Her master's thesis focused on the critical role of Catholic higher education in the future survival of the scholarly monograph in the humanities. At present, she is doing freelance editorial work.

2022

Cassidy Barrett of Apalachin, N.Y., is the athletics office coordinator at Le Moyne College.

Nathaniel Hacker of Johnson City, N.Y., is a graduate of Full Sail University's film production master's degree program, and is an editor with News Channel 34 in Binghamton, N.Y.

Ivonne Santana of Utica, N.Y., is an intake paralegal with the Legal Aid Society of Mid New York.

Jordan Signor of Watertown, N.Y., is the assistant director of admission and events at Syracuse University.

2023

Cleo Baker of Painted Post, N.Y., is the head coach for indoor and outdoor track at Notre Dame High School in Elmira, N.Y.

Alyssa Blair of West Springfield, Mass., is an admission counselor at Le Moyne College.

Christian Carlin-Saracene of Syracuse, N.Y., is a medical scribe at St. Joseph's Otolaryngology.

Anthony Case of Syracuse, N.Y., is the access services supervisor at Le Moyne College.

Maggie Casey of Pittsford, N.Y., is the human resources services coordinator at Constellation Brands.

Nolan Hillhouse of Beacon, N.Y., is an admission counselor at Le Moyne College.

April Kauffman of Syracuse, N.Y., is a tax associate at FustCharles.

Kathryn LaPaglia of Utica, N.Y., is an audit associate at FustCharles.

Amina Muminovic of Clay, N.Y., is an audit associate at FustCharles.

Philip Reutter of Mount Kisco, N.Y., won first place in the Esther Lloyd-Jones Case Study Competition at Canisius University.

Share your story

Sharing your story can make a big difference in other people's lives. Just a paragraph or two is all that's needed! Submit class notes to lemoyne.edu/alumni. Stories can be submitted to Molly McCarthy at mccartmk@lemoyne.edu. The magazine submission deadline for the next issue is **Sept. 1, 2024**.

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



Foreign Policy Forum

1983 ▶ Alexander Haig, who served as U.S. secretary of state under President Ronald Reagan and White House chief of staff under President Richard Nixon and President Gerald Ford, visited campus and spoke to members of the College community about foreign policy. An article about his visit appeared in the April 15, 1983, issue of *The Dolphin*. It stated that while he was on the Heights, Haig called for the nation to build “a moderate, bipartisan policy in foreign relations in the ‘80s.” The secretary’s brother, Frank Haig, S.J., served as Le Moyné’s president from 1981 until 1987. (Father Haig recently passed away. There is a remembrance of him on page 48.)

Ramblin Man

1977 ▶ Dicky Betts, the lead guitarist of the Allman Brothers, performed at Le Moyné’s Athletic Center. An article in *The Piper* shortly before the show reported that 1977 marked the “beginning of a new era” for the “virtuoso musician” and “accomplished songwriter.” And tickets to see Betts were not too expensive – just \$3.50 for Le Moyné students.



Alumni Achievements



TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH

2023 ▶ **Genevieve Kikukawa '23** of Honolulu, Hawaii, and **Kaylyn Weits '23** of Brockport, N.Y., published a paper along with Professor of Environmental Science Systems Larry Tanner, Ph.D. The paper, which was titled “Albedo on a glacial foreland at ground level and landscape scale driven by vegetation-substrate patterns,” appeared in the *European Journal of Environmental Sciences*. The group’s research was supported by the Joseph C. Georg Endowed Professorship.

As students on the Heights, Kikukawa, an environmental science systems major, and Weits, an environmental studies major, took part in research alongside Tanner in Iceland. They spent approximately two weeks in the island nation characterized by volcanoes, geysers, hot springs and lava fields. Among other things, the group gathered vegetation data in front of Skaftafellsjökull glacier. Their work exemplifies the College’s commitment to providing undergraduates with the opportunity to conduct faculty-mentored research.

D

DOLPHIN HISTORY

1948 ▶ 'Phin Fighters. Le Moyne held the first of what became known as the San Pablo Bouts, a tradition that endured until 1953. The premise was simple. Several young men volunteered to box in a ring set up in Grewen Auditorium, with proceeds from the sale of tickets to the event going to the San Pablo Mission of the Philippines.

1950s ▶ Nattily Attired. The early 1950s marked the beginning of long-held tradition on campus – seniors wearing their academic gowns to class and other academic functions. It was a ritual that had been observed on other Jesuit college campuses. There was one challenge associated with it, though. Some new students found it difficult to tell their classmates from their professors.

1960s ▶ Fashion Forward. By the late 1960s, young people around the world, by and large, had adopted a less formal style of dress. That led Academic Dean Francis Fallon, S.J., to issue the following message to faculty in 1968, reminding them of how students were expected to be attired: "Men must wear a suit coat, blazer or block-L sweater with shirt and tie. Seniors must wear the senior gown. Trousers should be clean and pressed, but shorts, dungarees, work pants and fatigues are never permitted."

1993 ▶ PB on J. A new organization, Peace Based on Justice, was launched on campus in the fall of 1993. PB on J, as it was known, was dedicated to raising awareness about critical issues of the day, including hunger, AIDS and apartheid, with the hope that increased consciousness would lead to action.

2004 ▶ Play Like a Champion. The Le Moyne men's lacrosse team won its first-ever national championship in 2004, defeating Limestone College (now Limestone University) 11-10 in double overtime.



Run NYC

Olivia Snell '23, M.S. '24 of Syracuse, N.Y., will run in the TCS New York City Marathon on Nov. 3, making her way 26.2 miles from the starting line at the foot of the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge in Staten Island to the finish line in Central Park in Manhattan. Snell was a member of Le Moyne's cross country and track and field teams and founded Le Moyne's Chronic Illness Awareness Club. Snell herself is living with lupus, a disease that causes a person's immune system to attack healthy tissues and organs. She is running in support of Lupus Research Alliance, the largest nongovernmental, nonprofit funder of lupus research worldwide.

Why We Do What We Do



2014 ▶ The year 2014 will be remembered as the one in which 16 professors from 11 academic disciplines set out to answer one question: Why do we do what we do? Professor of English Maura Brady, Ph.D., in her capacity as the O'Connell Professor of the Humanities, encouraged her colleagues to share what inspired their work. Their responses served as the basis for a collection of essays, *Why We Do What We Do*.



FINDING PURPOSE | Francine (Annese) Apy '91 cannot remember a time when adoption did not play a central role in her life. Apy and her husband, Ray, grew their family through adoption, welcoming their sons Luke, Matthew and John to the world and immediately letting them know how cherished they were. In addition, two of Apy's sisters are also loving adoptive parents. Adoption is a topic about which Apy has long been passionate. While she enjoyed a successful career in human resources, working in a variety of industries, she realized that what she was really called to do was to use her experience and training to give back to the adoption community. Now she is doing just that.

Apy is the founder of SoulFilling, LLC an organization whose aim is to raise awareness about adoption and to make conversation about it more accessible and mainstream by using tools such as coaching and storytelling. More than anything else, she views herself as a resource for adoptive parents, birth parents and children. Apy guides them, asks powerful questions and speaks from her own experience. Ultimately, though, it's up to the people she serves to determine what is best for them, for example if they are trying to determine how to approach a birthday, holiday or adoption finalization day. She says that while in the past there has been a lot of secrecy and misunderstanding surrounding adoption, that has happily begun to change over the past 20 years, and she is eager to play a role in that transformation. Since its founding in mid-2023, SoulFilling has been featured in several media outlets, including *The Times Union* and *Simply Saratoga Magazine*, as well as News Channel 10 in Albany, an ABC affiliate.

The Le Moyne alumna's plans for the future of SoulFilling are ambitious. In addition to continuing to share the stories of families that have been touched by adoption via print publications, digital outlets, social media and perhaps even a podcast, she would love to see

adoption-themed books in every elementary school library in America, and has just completed her own book, *Brianna's Brave Day at School*. One day she hopes to expand SoulFilling beyond adoption to help people determine what fills their souls and where their purpose lies. In short, Apy hopes to help people become more reflective. Rather than becoming tangled up in what she calls "What ifs?," she wants them to reach out to others to better understand adoption, particularly if it's something they have never before explored.

Apy credits her time at Le Moyne, where she majored in English, for helping to prepare her for this work. She calls the College a place where she felt supported academically, personally, socially and spiritually. It allowed her to grow in her faith, which is the heart of the work she does today. While pursuing this endeavor, she continues to offer her HR expertise in coaching, consulting or public speaking on the topics of HR and adoption. She has connected with another Le Moyne alumna, Christina (Nordquist) Jacobs '09, to assist her with her marketing and social media needs.

"Whether you've adopted your children or not, each life and each family comes with its own kind of joy, happiness, sadness and difficulty," she says. "But I believe



that with the right team, resilience, and desire to grow and to write our own best chapters, we can navigate our individual stories and thrive." 📍

By Molly K. McCarthy

(Above) Francine Apy shares a moment with her husband, Ray, and their sons, Luke, Matthew and John.

.....
To connect with Apy and join the adoption conversation, she encourages you, whether your story involves adoption or not, to go to www.SoulFillingAdoption.com and subscribe to the SoulFilling Newsletter.

In Memoriam

John Meagher '52

John Senecal '54

Mary (McAuliff) Bellardini '55

Thomas Crisafulli '58

Rosemarie (Pagano) Bundy '58

Thomas Shanahan '59

William Loftus '59

William Bennett '59

Gerald Bartz '59

Mary Ann (Fitzgerald)
Auricchio '59

Thomas Teelin '61

Richard Hibey '62

Paul Eiholzer '62

Patricia (Murphy) Deacon '65

Thomas Agati '65

Edward Stankard '66

Mary (Hoyt) Docteur '66

Daniel Glauber '67

James Condon '68

William Gorman '69

Eduardo Ferrand Zavala '69

Edward Durand '69

William O'Brien '70

James Calabrese '70

Joseph Rottinger '71

Michael King '71

Larry Hoyt '71

John Hanley '72

Terrance Freeman '72

Michael Jablanski '73

Dennis Brundage '73

Roderick Trombley '75

Robert Betterton '78

David James '81

Ethel Holt '83

William Wright '85

Patricia DeRue '85

Ann Doherty '89

Frank MacKowski '90

Timothy DeForge '93

Ryan Carroll '94

Peter Wambach '95

Theodore Baldini '96

Judith Biermann '05

Patrick Cassidy '10

Stephanie (White) Lessun '11

Michael Jensen '17, MBA '18

A Life Well Lived, Devoted to Art

Jacqueline Belfort-Chalat (1927-2023)



(left) Professor Jacqueline Belfort-Chalat in class with a student. (right) A sculpture of Christ on the cross by Belfort-Chalat hangs in the Shanahan Chapel, located in the Panasci Family Chapel at Le Moyne.

Jacqueline Belfort-Chalat, who in 1969 became the founding chair of the Department of Fine Arts at Le Moyne and whose teaching and artwork impacted generations of students and others, passed away on Feb. 26 at the age of 94.

During a career at the College that stretched 40 years, Belfort-Chalat was a fierce advocate for the arts.

"Jacqueline identified a critical need: How do we provide an opportunity for students, no matter their major, to engage in the fine arts?" said Donald Kirby, S.J., the superior of Le Moyne's Jesuit community, one of her

closest friends. "Despite having limited funding, she had the tenacity to make her vision a reality."

In an article in *The Catholic Sun*, Belfort-Chalat's daughter, Cate Ziegler, said that her mother believed that studying art "gave students a new way to see things, to understand the relationships between objects, and to see the relationship between the part and the whole." Her obituary noted that she "leaves behind generations of students who have become community leaders, doctors, educators, athletes, visual and performing

artists, and business leaders."

Belfort-Chalat, who retired as professor emeritus in 2009, was a prolific sculptor and painter. Her secular artwork can be found in private collections and institutions like the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse, the Smithsonian Institution, and galleries and museums in New York, Washington D.C., Canada, Nigeria and Europe. Born to a Jewish family, she began to study spirituality with the Jesuits when she came to Le Moyne and converted to Catholicism in the early 1970s. Her nonsecular work is housed in numerous churches, including Le Moyne's Panasci Family Chapel, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

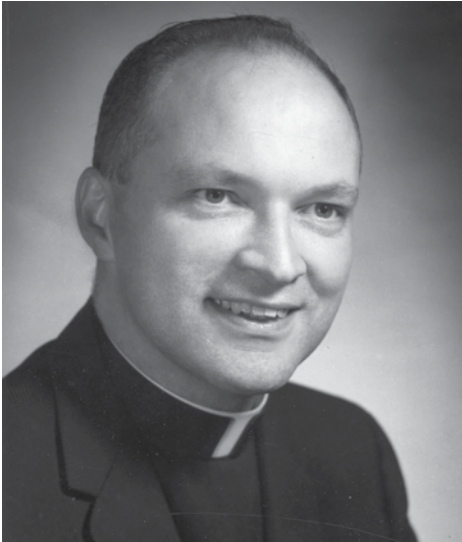
in Syracuse (where she was a lector for many years) and even the Vatican.

She graduated at the age of 18 with a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago and graduated with the title of professor, a doctoral equivalent, from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen, Denmark, with previous studies, starting at the age of 13, at Columbia University and New York City's Art Students League and Fashion Institute of Technology.

by Joe Della Posta

Jesuit Nuclear Physicist

Former President Frank Haig, S.J. (1928-2024)



Frank Haig, S.J., who served as Le Moyne's seventh president, passed away on Feb. 28 at the age of 95.

Born in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1928, Haig attended Lower Merion Senior High School and entered the Society of Jesus at the Novitiate of St. Isaac Jogues in Wernersville, Pa., on July 30, 1946. After graduating from

Woodstock College in Woodstock, Md., he received his Licentiate in Philosophy from Bellarmine College in Plattsburgh, N.Y., and his Ph.D. in physics from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He also earned a Bachelor of Sacred Theology and a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from Woodstock College. He was ordained a priest on June 19, 1960.

As Jesuits USA East noted in a story celebrating Haig's life, he wasn't just a Jesuit or a physicist. He was "a Jesuit nuclear physicist." After finishing a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Rochester, he spent three years as a professor of physics at Wheeling Jesuit University before becoming its third president in 1966, remaining in that role for six years. He went to Loyola College in Maryland in 1972, teaching physics there for 9 years. In 1981, he was once again called to serve as president of a Jesuit institution, this time at Le Moyne, which he led for six years.

During his presidency Haig was instrumental in developing initiatives that focused on indigenous peoples; among these were an

annual lecture on the Iroquois, scholarship aid for Native American students, and a 1985 Kateri Tekakwitha conference that brought 2,500 people to campus. A charismatic speaker, he was highly engaged in the regional community and became a staunch advocate for private education. One of Haig's major accomplishments was the refurbishment of the Coyne Science Center, a project that cost \$4 million and took two years to complete. A highlight of his time at Le Moyne was a campus event featuring his older brother Alexander Haig, at the time the secretary of state under President Ronald Reagan. Following his term as president, he returned to Loyola Maryland as a professor of physics.

"Le Moyne would not be the institution it is today without Father Haig's accomplishments and lasting influence," said President Linda LeMura, Ph.D. "As a world-class physicist, Father Haig knew the importance of rigorous academics to Jesuit education, and the steps he made in this area speak to his legacy as Le Moyne's president."

A Salute to the Blue

Michael Jensen '17, MBA '18 and Michael Hoosock

This spring Le Moyne honored the lives and mourned the loss of Syracuse police officer Michael Jensen '17, MBA '18, and Onondaga County sheriff's deputy Michael Hoosock, who attended Le Moyne during the 2004-05 academic year. Both were tragically killed in the line of duty on Sunday, April 14, near Syracuse.

Jensen, who joined the Syracuse City Police Department in 2022, was a member of the club hockey team during his time on the Heights. Bob Shattell, who served as his coach, remembered Jensen as "... a phenomenal kid, from a phenomenal family, who became a phenomenal man." Hoosock was a 16-year veteran of the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office.

To honor the lives and commemorate the service of both men, flags on the Grewen Quad were flown at half-mast and the College held a memorial service in the Panasci Family Chapel.





FAMILY FOOTSTEPS | Gabe Rich Jr. '54 and Audrey (Zillioux) Rich '54 were among the first Dolphins, members of the College's fourth class. Their days on the Heights marked the beginning of a family legacy that now spans three generations, and which is treasured by their children and grandchildren alike.



Rich Family Tree

Audrey '54 and Gabriel Jr '54

Children

- Gabriel Rich III '78 and Lisa (Chermak) Rich '78
- Kristen Rich Fragnoli '89 and Steve Fragnoli '89
- Steven Rich, PA '09

Grandchildren

- Paul Rich '16 and Rachael Risley '16
- Kelsey Rich '18

At a time when most women had to forgo higher education, Audrey was thrilled to attend the first Jesuit college to open as a coeducational institution. She relished every opportunity to learn, grow and expand her horizons at Le Moyne. Because the College did not have on-campus housing for women when she was a student, Audrey lived with a local family, working as a nanny while studying English on the Heights. She became a prominent member of the College's debate team, traveling to New York City and Vermont to compete. At the age of 90, Audrey recalled the topics of those debates with clarity, and regaled her family with stories of those competitions.

Gabe Jr. studied industrial and labor relations on the Heights

where, in his free time, he enjoyed playing intramural basketball with his friends. He would later apply his education to a successful, rewarding career with General Electric Co. Both Gabe Jr. and Audrey developed close, lasting relationships with their Jesuit professors. Those connections influenced their belief in the value of education, social justice and service to others for the remainder of their lives. Audrey served as a member of the Alumni Association Board for many years and was an enthusiastic promoter of Le Moyne.

The powerful impact Le Moyne had on their lives would go on to influence the college choices of three of their children and later two of their grandchildren. Their son, Gabe Rich III '78,

D.D.S., described his own Le Moyne experience as "transformational." Their daughter Kristen (Rich) Fragnoli '89 said that it "opened the world to me in a way I'd never before experienced."

Gabriel Jr. and Audrey passed away in 1991 and 2023 respectively. The family has established an endowed scholarship in the couple's honor to support students with financial need seeking admission to dental school. This was done in gratitude for the influence Jesuit education and mentorship had on the entire family. It led Gabe III to the Georgetown University School of Dentistry and to the career of his dreams.

(top) Audrey (Zillioux) Rich '54 with her son, Steven Rich, PA '09 and Steven's daughter, Kelsey Rich '18.

(bottom) The Rich family includes (standing left to right) Gabriel Rich III '78, D.D.S., Paul Rich, Kristen (Rich) Fragnoli '89, Steven Fragnoli '89, and Steven Rich, PA '09 and (seated) Lisa (Chermak) Rich '78 and Audrey (Zillioux) Rich '54.



STRONGER CORE | Carmine Rubino '90 and Lynda (Swanson) Rubino '90 met as students on the Heights and are dedicated to their alma mater. Carmine is the managing partner at Kramer, Diloff, Livingston and Moore. Lynda is an associate director at Ernst and Young, and has given back to her alma mater as a member of the board of trustees and volunteer with the Office of Admission. They initiated the John W. Langdon '67, Ph.D., Professorship in order to ensure the excellence and sustainability of the College's Core Curriculum.



What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Being with our families, preferably sitting on a beach looking at the ocean

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

An older family member adopted a Great Dane whom he loved but couldn't care for practically. This person's nephew agreed to take the puppy and raise him with his other four dogs, giving the Great Dane a happy home.

Do you think philanthropy is learned or born in people?

We believe its learned. It's important to teach our children

the importance of giving back to the extent they are able. It's important to be grateful to organizations,

colleges, high schools, etc., that have given you great experiences and set you up for success, and to show that gratitude through continuous support.

What is your most treasured possession?

Not sure if they count as possessions, but we treasure our daughters, Victoria and Emily, and our dog, Max.

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

It's not about the amount you give. It's that you give something to show your support and appreciation, again with your time, talent or treasure.

What is your most marked characteristic?

Carmine is driven and Lynda is practical. We are both generous with our time, talent and treasure.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received?

Be honest and don't say you've done something if you haven't.

What is your personal motto?

Carmine: "It is what it is."
Lynda: "Can I make a suggestion?" and "Say a Hail Mary."

What characteristic do you most admire in other people?

Being genuine and interested in others.

Favorite Italian restaurant?

Michael's of Brooklyn.

Grewen Hall on the Le Moyne campus and (inset) Lynda and Carmine Rubino.

"It's not about the amount you give. It's that you give something to show your support and appreciation."

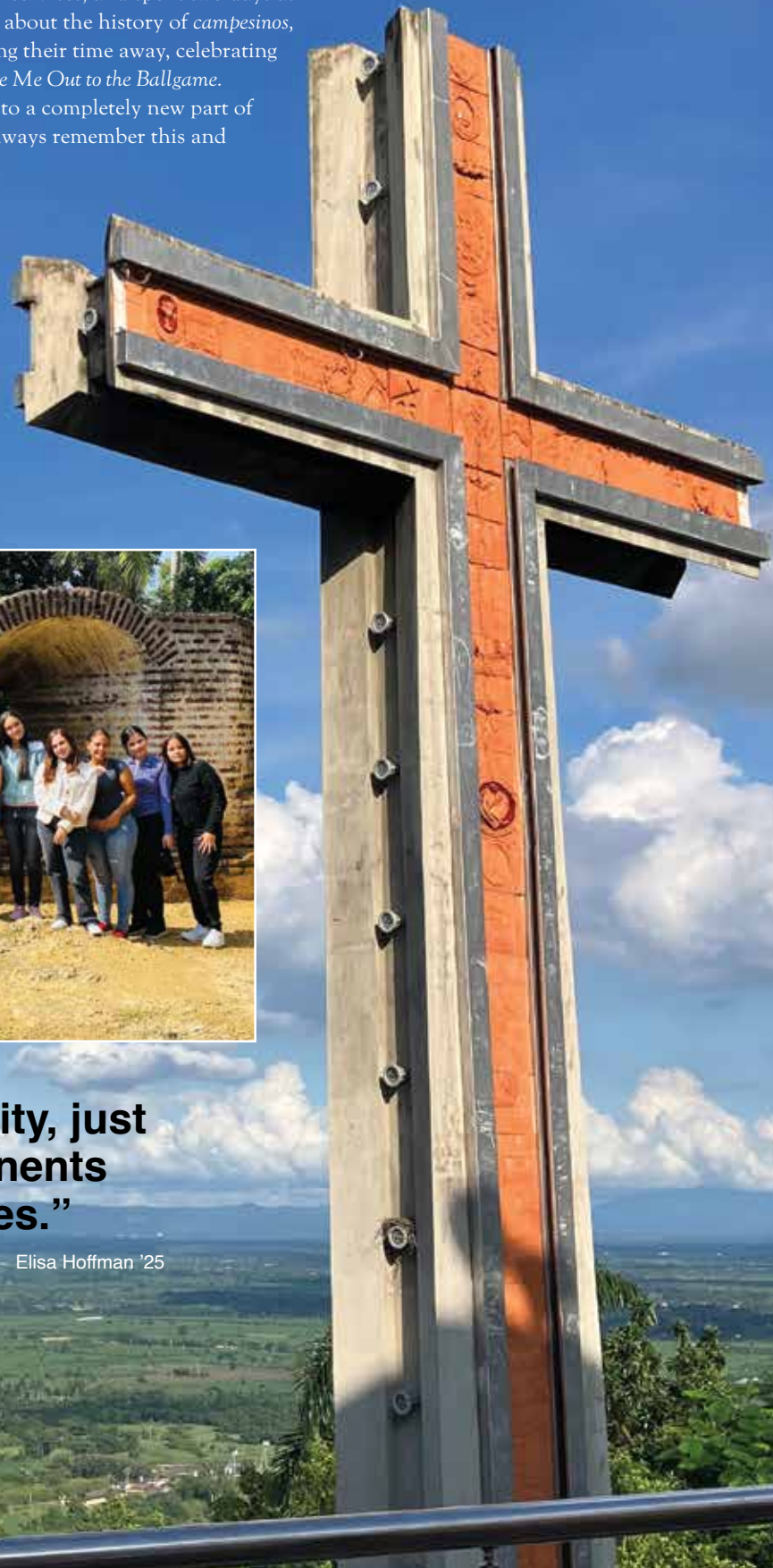
Keeping An Open Heart

Immersion trips remind Elisa Hoffman '25 of the importance of being human – and of remembering that everyone else is human as well. What's more, these excursions illustrate that “we truly are one community, just spread across seven continents and a few hundred countries.” The physics major from Buffalo, N.Y., recently returned from a weeklong trip to the Dominican Republic. She was part of a team of students who traveled to the Caribbean nation in order to immerse themselves in its history and culture. They visited a local school, attended church services, and spent two days at an ecolodge in the mountains near Rio Blanco, where they learned about the history of *campesinos*, or farmers. The undergraduates also enjoyed lighter moments during their time away, celebrating Three Kings Day and teaching a group of children the lyrics to *Take Me Out to the Ballgame*. Meredith Lovenduski '26 credited the trip with “opening [her] eyes to a completely new part of the world.” Hoffman echoed those sentiments, saying: “I hope to always remember this and keep my mind and heart open to others and their stories.”



“We truly are one community, just spread across seven continents and a few hundred countries.”

Elisa Hoffman '25



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