

MOUNT NOTRE DAME

# DEVELOPMENTS

winter 2021

*Celebrating  
25 Years  
with the  
Cougar!*



*Performing Arts Center  
preview on  
page 12!*



# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Judy Back Gerwe '78**  
President

*Stay Updated!*

Read Judy's monthly newsletter available at [mndhs.org/about](http://mndhs.org/about)

## Dear MND Community,

What a year it has been! I hope you and your family have remained safe and healthy and want to assure you of our continued prayers.

In our summer edition of Developments we shared our Distance Learning Plan that we implemented when schools closed last March, and we had wonderful hopes of starting a "normal" school year in the fall. However, we are still dealing with the effects of COVID-19 and will probably continue to do so through the remainder of this year. We have had to do things differently, but the creativity shown by everyone has been amazing! I hope you enjoy reading about the many ways that the true spirit of MND and the charisma of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur are still alive and well during the pandemic.

Our fall sports team offered lots

of excitement this year with four of them going into tournament play – soccer, field hockey, cross country and volleyball. Volleyball captured the state title and, although many of us had to watch on our computers, we were all with the Cougars in spirit! The students and staff were able to celebrate our teams with a surprise pep rally socially distanced on the field after a fire drill. Congratulations to our athletes, their coaches, and our Athletic Department! Read about our 25th State Championship Title and the 25th Anniversary of our Cougar mascot in this issue.

You will also find an update and some photos regarding the construction of the new Performing Arts Center in this issue. It is so exciting to see the progress that has been made since construction began last summer! Thanks so much to our MND family and friends

who invested in this project to make it a reality. There is an opportunity for you to get involved by helping us outfit the space with state-of-the-art equipment. The Performing Arts Center is due to be completed in late February and we can't wait to invite you to see it! Stay tuned for some opportunities to do so beginning in March. And please let me know if you want to learn more about this exciting project.

May you continue to see "How Good is the Good God" as we embark on this new year. I look forward to the time we can gather once again to celebrate our amazing school! Thanks for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Judy Back Gerwe '78

# LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

## Friends of the MND Community,

Happy New Year! I pray and hope that you and your loved ones have been healthy. Know that you each have been remembered in prayer as part of the Mount Notre Dame legacy. Over the past nine months, we have certainly all lived through unprecedented times with modified traditional experiences in our work and personal lives. Throughout, I have been looking for the silver lining and share some with you here.

**I am grateful for the opportunity to grow.** Remaining authentically MND has been a goal as we have traversed this pandemic. There are so many MND rituals and experiences that have had to be adjusted. However, the collaboration that has resulted in incredible creativity and often the

discovery of a preferred new way. MND will be better because of this opportunity.

## **I am grateful for the gift of working in a faith-based environment.**

We are living through a global pandemic while dealing with social unrest in our nation relative to diversity, equity and inclusion, a charged presidential election and just recently, violence in our capitol related to the democratic process. We have been blessed to be able to call upon and model Gospel values and the Hallmarks of a Notre Dame Learning Community to center our response and efforts for healing, safety, respect and peace.

**I am grateful for conversation and connections.** I have had the privilege to speak with more

families due to this pandemic. I certainly would not choose to discuss positive COVID cases or precautionary quarantining. However, be it on the phone or via Zoom, I cherish the ways in which more personal conversations with those whom I serve have surfaced.

As we move through this second semester of the school year, I remain hopeful and optimistic about our future as an MND community. We will continue to remain authentically MND while we learn, pray and build relationships. May you find God's goodness and blessings ever present today and always.

With joy,

Karen M. Day



**Karen Day**  
Principal

# IN THIS ISSUE

## (winter 2021)



### LEADERSHIP TEAM

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President

Karen Day  
Principal

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Assistant Principal for Student Development

Ben Hunt  
Assistant Principal for Academic Development

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Director of Campus Ministry

Rose Eckhoff  
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Chris Gramke  
Director of Marketing and Communications

Diane Barney  
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Donna Groene  
Director of Admissions

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### EDITOR

Jen Eling Thamann '01  
Communications & PR Manager

### CONTRIBUTOR

Jen Vonderbrink '11  
Alumnae Development Officer

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Guided by the Catholic faith and Saint Julie Billiart's belief in the "goodness of God," Mount Notre Dame educates and empowers young women to recognize and develop their unique capabilities to learn, live, lead and serve.*

**COVER STORY**  
Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the MND Cougar.

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Highlighting student achievements and activities.

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**ATHLETICS**  
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### CLASS NOTES

Sharing news and updates from our alumnae and legacy families.

**ON THE COVER:** It's been 25 years since MND changed its mascot from Mountaineers to Cougars. Turn to page four to learn more about the mascot transition and the role of the MND Cougar today.



# The Case for the Cougar

**It's been 25 years since MND officially became known as the Cougars. We reflect on the mascot transition and how the Cougar has become a central part of the MND Experience.**

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## THE ORIGINAL MOUNTAINEERS

Once MND officially became an Archdiocese of Cincinnati high school in 1960, it wasn't long before the school selected Mountaineers as their nickname/mascot. The thought being that since the school was quite literally situated on the "mountain" known as Columbia Avenue/Benson Street, it seemed fitting that students would be known as Mountaineers. The shortened nickname "Mounties" became the common term utilized which continued to be the case until 1995. It was at that time the school began to reexamine the Mountaineer/Mountie mascot name as several challenges had arisen over the years. Students found it difficult to create school cheers and chants based on the mascot name and the school did not have a visual representation of a Mountaineer to utilize on spirit wear and other printed items. Also, the inconsistent use of Mountaineer versus Mountie created some identity confusion.

MND's Girls Athletic Association (GAA), initially established in 1959, was tasked with exploring new mascot options. The club wanted to be sure to involve current students as well as alumnae with this important decision so they sponsored a contest where the MND Community could offer suggestions for new mascots. They compiled all the suggestions and narrowed it down to three potential candidates: Blue Jays, Mountain Lions and Cougars. People were then asked to vote for one of the three to determine a winner. While Mountain Lions would have certainly provided a nice nod to the former MND mascot, it was not a viable option given that MND's friendly GGCL rival school was already known as the Lions. Ultimately, Cougars (which happens to be another name for Mountain Lions) captured the most votes.



*The original Cougar mascot costume.*

With the new mascot decided, GAA proceeded in bringing the MND Cougar to life. Creating a Cougar costume was first on the list. GAA members and then moderator, Donna Groene, visited Schenz Theatrical Supply on Colerain Avenue to help design the very first Cougar costume. MND also consulted with the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens to better understand the nuances of the Cougar paw so that an authentic paw print could be designed. With a new mascot name and graphics set, it paved the way for MND's very first spirit shop, which later opened for the 1996-97 school year.

Once the new Cougar costume was complete, MND planned an over-the-top surprise reveal. Thanks to a school connection, a helicopter was secured to help fly in the new MND Cougar. Students and staff assembled outside for a pep rally and lined the former MND field as the helicopter landed in the middle. Emerging from the helicopter was the brand new MND Cougar, worn by MND alumna and then faculty member **Heather Bessler '90!** Shortly after the mascot transition was complete, MND won its first ever team State Championship title (Volleyball, 1995). How fitting that exactly 25 years after becoming the Cougars, MND won its 25th State Championship title (Volleyball, 2020).

## BECOMING THE COUGARS





## THE COUGAR TODAY



*The Cougar was on hand to welcome Mary Arengo '24 during Registration Day on January 30, 2020.*

The role of the Cougar mascot has also evolved, moving from merely a fun presence at pep rallies to becoming a true ambassador for MND. The Cougar not only brings spirit and joy to the internal school community by being present for assemblies, pep rallies and events such as the MND Fashion Show, but the Cougar also represents MND in the external community. The Cougar has marched in the Findlay Market Opening Day Parade and has also participated in the Flying Pig Marathon Mascot Race. The Cougar has hobnobbed with mascot celebrities such as Rosie Red and Gapper and posed for photographs with United States Women's National Team members **Rachael Adams '08** and **Rose Lavelle '13**. And it is the Cougar that traditionally greets prospective students and families at Open House and other Admissions events, setting the tone for a welcoming and spirited experience.

Still managed and maintained by GAA, the process to wear the Cougar costume is fairly straight forward. Interested students complete an application and explain why they wish to represent MND as the Cougar. Height is the primary obstacle as students must be able to fit in the costume. On average, 5-7 students are selected each year to wear the costume and abide by the rules and expectations of such a privilege. The golden rule is to never remove the mascot head in the presence of others!

Student safety and sanitation is always a top priority in regards to the mascot costume and, due to COVID-19, the Cougar has not been able to be as active this school year. Recognizing the importance of the Cougar in relation to MND's identity and spirit, the Admissions and Marketing Departments have commissioned several life-sized cardboard cutouts of the Cougar to be used at events when the costume itself cannot be worn. Be sure to look for the Cougar – either in cardboard or in costume – on your next visit to MND!

*"My favorite event to work as the Cougar is Registration Day for incoming freshmen. It's so much fun welcoming future students and their families to MND as they arrive! It's a very exciting event with lots of positive energy!"*

**- Kayla Johnson '21**

MND is blessed to have such a rich and vibrant history, with the mascot being part of the story. Whether alumnae identify themselves as Mountaineers, Mounties or Cougars, they are all part of the same MND Sisterhood.



*Top: The Cougar at the 2017 Findlay Market Opening Day Parade.*

*Middle: The Cougar and Gapper at MND's Spring 2019 Pep Rally.*

*Bottom: The Cougar at Fountain Square celebrating Rose Lavelle's '13 World Cup win.*



### MND National Merit Commended Students

Congratulations to MND’s Commended Students in the 2021 National Merit Scholarship Program: **Emma Campbell '21** and **Anna Heilers '21**. Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2021 competition by taking the 2019 Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise.

MND Principal Mrs. Karen Day commented, “We are so proud of Emma and Anna for their outstanding accomplishment and the way they have used their academic gifts to enrich MND’s classrooms. Both Emma and Anna are deeply involved in MND’s Community Service programs where the greater community has experienced their positive impact too!”



Emma Campbell '21



Anna Heilers '21

### Advanced Placement® Scholars

MND is proud to recognize its 95 Advanced Placement Scholars as identified by the College Board after the 2019-2020 school year. This is the largest number of AP Scholars in school history. Included in the 95 AP Scholars are 1 National AP Scholar, 22 AP Scholars with Distinction (including the National AP Scholar), 22 AP Scholars with Honor and 51 AP Scholars.

Achieving National Status is not an easy feat. National AP Scholars must take at least eight AP exams and receive a score of 4 or 5 (out of 5). Congratulations to MND alumna **Jules Jefferson '20** who was recognized as a National AP Scholar.

Nearly 40% of MND students took one or more AP tests during the 2019-2020 school year with over 35% earning AP Scholar status. What is even more impressive is that these testers finished their final 10 weeks of school via digital distance learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They were the first AP testers to take their tests digitally.

**MOUNT NOTRE DAME**  
Empowering Young Women

2019-2020

**95 AP® Scholars**

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>1</b> National AP® Scholar     | <b>22</b> AP® Scholars with Distinction<br><i>(including National AP® Scholar)</i> |
| <b>22</b> AP® Scholars with Honor | <b>51</b> AP® Scholars   |

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**20 Advanced Placement® courses available**



## Life-Long Learning Modules

St. Julie Billiart is known for saying, “Teach them what they need to know for life”. In that spirit, MND created a dynamic series of Life-Long Learning Modules that were offered to students throughout the first semester. All students were required to attend at least three different modules, with freedom to choose topics that were of greatest interest to them.


The modules covered academic, student and spiritual development topics, each with a different theme or purpose. Panelists and guest speakers ranged from business professionals, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, non-profit representatives and more, with several MND alumnae taking part. Below is a sampling of the unique modules offered to students on a given day!



Academic Development  
Lifelong Learning Module  
NOVEMBER 11  
9:30 AM - 10:25 AM

**Honoring Our Veterans  
CAPTAIN  
AVERY LARKIN '11**


Hosted by:  
Mr. Ben Hunt  
Ms. Jenn Koutnik

Spiritual Development  
Lifelong Learning Module  
NOVEMBER 11  
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM

**BREAKING THE  
SILENCE:  
EMPOWERED TO TALK  
ABOUT RACE**

Led by:  
Sr. Patty Chappell, SNDdeN  
Sr. Anne-Louise Nadeau, SNDdeN  
with  
Mr. Nick Hosmer  
Mrs. Jen Dodds





Student Development  
Lifelong Learning Module  
NOVEMBER 11  
12:30 PM - 1:25 PM

**UP IN SMOKE -  
WHAT IS THE RISK?**

Navigated by:  
MaryAngela Guye '18  
Julia Feldman '20  
with  
Dr. Ashley Merianos  
Associate Professor of Human Services  
University of Cincinnati



# learn

## College Credit Plus

College Credit Plus (CCP) is Ohio’s system for dual enrollment allowing students to earn college and high school credits at the same time. Mount Notre Dame has partnered with Cincinnati State and the University of Cincinnati to offer these courses to our students. In the fall of 2020, we are proud to say that 90 MND students earned 380 credit hours through our five CCP course offerings. MND continues to expand our CCP course offerings to allow students additional opportunities to earn college-credit before graduation.

CollegeCredit  
PLUS



## Connecting Students with Sisters

MND is proud to take part in the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur's Sister Dorothy Stang Rememberance Project, remembering the 15th anniversary of Sister Dorothy's murder in Brazil. As part of the ongoing curriculum, the Junior class reads *The Journey of Courage* by Michelle Murdock and shares Sister Dorothy's story with each other as well as with the sisters who live at the Ohio Province Center next door to MND.



With the social distancing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, MND needed to create a new strategy that would still allow students to share their reflections with the sisters while protecting the health and wellness of all parties involved. Mrs. Jen Dodds, MND's Director of Campus Ministry, worked to ensure that the project continued, especially during this important anniversary year, by implementing a recorded Zoom Meeting with Sister Joan Krimm, Sister Jo Depweg and a small group of Junior students. The recording would then be shared with the entire Junior class. Students followed up by writing letters about the Zoom discussion to individual sisters at the Ohio Province Center.

*live*

## MND Partners with Stanley Black & Decker

MND's Foundations in Engineering class is leading the way in STEM education by partnering with Stanley Black & Decker as part of their "For Those Who Make The World" high school engineering program. The program began on November 9, 2020 with a Zoom briefing by the sponsor engineer, MND alumna **Jillian Valerius Shute '97**, Vice President of Industrial Automotive Solutions for Stanley Black & Decker. Students worked with engineers from Stanley Black & Decker over a six week period in a small group project, culminating with a video presentation of the team's proposed solution.

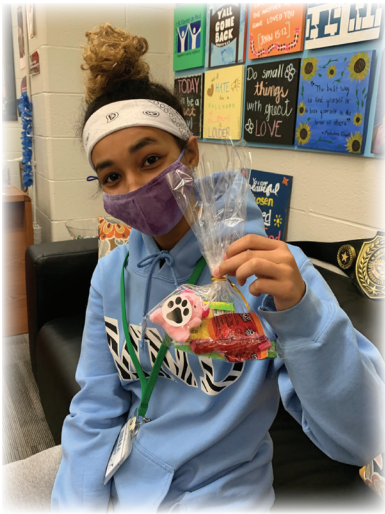


*lead*





## Cougar Care Bags



MND students are working to make a difference and spread a little kindness in our community. Members of MND's Freshman After School Service Team are offering Cougar Care Bags this school year. These little pick-me-ups are intended for people having a tough time or hurting. This could be due to an injury, an ill parent or close relative, a death in the family, or some other major challenge they are facing.

*Left: Bella Puthoff '22 shows off a sample Cougar Care Bag.*

serve

## Cross Ministry

In the Spring of 2020, a team of MND students came together to form the Graces & Blessings Cross Ministry. Their mission is to spread their faith in Jesus Christ through the construction and distribution of small wooden crosses that are distributed throughout MND and the rest of our community, free of charge. Student leaders manage the entire operation, and dozens of MND students are working hard getting the mini-ministry up and running. Activities including locating sources of good, usable scrap hardwood, planing the wood to the desired dimensions, routing the wood pieces, gluing, staining, drilling and assembling necklaces and key rings, and placing into the plastic sleeves for distribution. If you are interested in obtaining a cross (or crosses), please contact MND Community Service Director, Mr. Todd Forman (tforman@mndhs.org) or visit [www.mndhs.org/crosses](http://www.mndhs.org/crosses).



## Liberty, KY Rural Plunge

While there is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on MND's Community Service offerings this year, 35 students and 10 adult participants were blessed to continue the beloved tradition of traveling to Liberty, Kentucky for a Rural Plunge on October 15-19, 2020. This rural plunge experience allows students to learn about organic farming, spend time with local Mennonite and Amish friends, help with construction projects, listen to music and serve elderly and differently-abled friends at the Galilean Children's Home. MND ensured that all health and safety protocols were put into place and participants were divided into pods/teams and worked with that team during the trip and during transport. It was a successful and safe service trip for all!



# SCORES AND MORE

# STATE CHAMPIONS!



MND Volleyball (23-2) defeated the undefeated Padua Franciscan Bruins (14-25, 25-14, 25-12, 25-18) to win the 2020 OHSAA Division 1 State Championship on Sunday, November 15, 2020. This marks MND's 10th state volleyball title and 25th state title overall. The Cougars finished the season ranked #1 in the Nation by MaxPreps!

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## MND Soccer Makes History

Successfully completing a full season of soccer during a pandemic is historic in and of itself. MND Soccer, however, made history in several other ways too. The Cougars finished regular season play with a perfect 14-0-0 record - a feat never before achieved by a previous MND Soccer team. In addition, the team earned the coveted #1 state ranking - a first in MND Soccer program history.

The Cougars were crowned District Champions before falling to Lakota West in a Regional Semifinal battle. Coach Kiersten Johnson was named GGCL Coach of the Year and **Peyton Kohls '23** was named GGCL Player of the Year. Coach Johnson was also named the 2020 Regional Coach of the Year by the United Soccer Coaches Association.







MND Field Hockey was crowned 2020 District Champions. Head Coach **Sarah Pisciotta '15** was named GGCL Coach of the Year.



For the first time since 2005, MND Cross Country had two runners qualify for the Regional Championships: **Elle Seeger '22** and **Natalie Keller '23**.



MND Golfer **Maureen Burns '24** qualified for the District Championships and was named GGCL Second Team.

## Welcome, Coach!



MND is pleased to announce the hiring of **Sara Kuhlman '10** as Head Varsity Lacrosse Coach. Sara has been coaching at the collegiate level since 2014. Most recently, she has served as a Women's Lacrosse Assistant Coach at NCAA Division 1 Furman University. She replaces long-time MND Lacrosse Head Coach Russell Mackey, who left MND to become the Head Women's Lacrosse Coach at Anderson University in Indiana.

While a student-athlete at MND, Sara was named Most Valuable Player her senior year and was the all-time scoring and points leader. She continued her lacrosse career at High Point University (HPU) where she started every game during her four years and made two NCAA tournament appearances. She was named Big South First-Team All-Conference her senior season and was HPU's All Time Leader in Draw Controls. Coach Kuhlman graduated from HPU with a B.A. in Health & Physical Education and a Minor in Athletic Coaching in 2014. She earned her Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Professional Sales & Sales Management from the University of Cincinnati in 2020.

## Visit our online Spirit Shop!

With more and more people shopping online than ever before, don't forget to add MND's online Spirit Shop to your list! You can score all the latest styles in all the signature MND colors and have the items shipped directly to your home! It is a great compliment to our Spirit Shop on campus, each featuring unique items for Cougar students and fans!



# Previewing the New Performing Arts Center!

There has been a lot of construction happening at MND since June. The construction area is where the theater and library were located – or for those who graduated before 2000, where the old gym was. It is being renovated into an amazing Performing Arts Center!

MND partnered with MSA Design, HMBA and Beischel Building Company to create the new center that transformed the original stage area into an on-site Scene Shop and used the rest of the space for a new stage, 390 permanent tiered seats, a control booth and a gallery. It is shaping up to be an amazing room where we can hold productions, offer choral concerts, showcase the MND Dance Team, hold meetings and classes, and even open it up for broader use by the community!

We are so grateful for the support of our benefactors who participated in the major gift phase of the *Achieve More... Now and Forever* campaign that raised money for the new Learning Commons space and the Performing Arts Center as well as investments in our endowment that will secure the future of MND. We still need about \$700,000 to cover our capital expenses and are offering everyone an opportunity to have a piece in the success of this campus improvement. There is an envelope enclosed in this edition of *Developments*. We encourage you to remove and consider an item you might be interested in helping us purchase. Each investment will include recognition of the generous benefactor. You can also give online at <https://www.mndhs.org/theatre-wish-list/> or call the Advancement Office at 513.821.3044.



Risers and Control Room

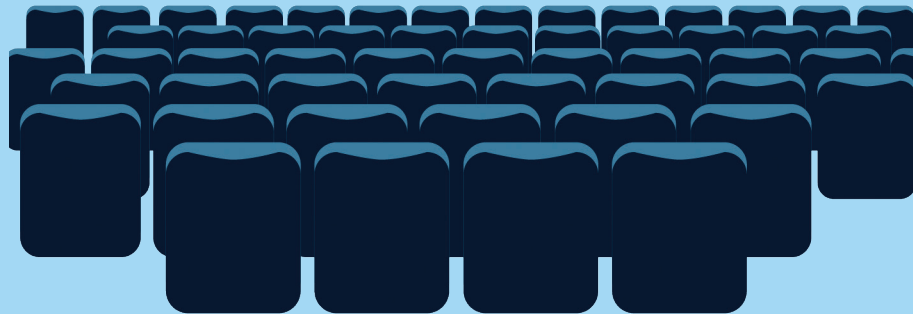


Stage and Scene Shop



# *Sponsor a Seat!*

**Your Name Here**



**Is your daughter/niece/granddaughter a current or past member of MNDT?**

**Is there a loved one you would like to honor?**

**Are you an alumna of MNDT?**

**Are you a patron of the Arts?**



This is your opportunity to fund a seat in the new Performing Arts Center! Please consider an investment of \$500 to sponsor a seat. We will engrave a nameplate with the name of the person(s) you are sponsoring the seat for and will affix it to the back of one of our new tiered theater seats. Order now...Quantities are limited! You can use the enclosed envelope or go online and select sponsor a seat at <https://www.mndhs.org/theatre-wish-list/>.

# CLASS NOTES

## 1980s

**Debbie Fritz Hayes '80** was recognized as a Cincinnati Business Courier 2020 C-Suite Honoree.



**Anne Gruber-McCarthy '89** graduated with a Master's in Conservation Biology through Miami University's Project Dragonfly program in conjunction with the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden this December. As part of her studies, she traveled to Kenya, Africa last summer to learn from the Maasai tribe how they have transformed from killing lions and elephants as a rite of passage to protecting these animals and coexisting. It was a life-changing experience and part of her heart still resides there.

## 1990s

**Erin Mayerchak Powell '90** has opened her own small business in Blue Ash, Ohio. She is the new owner of A World of Beads - a bead and gem store that teaches you how to make your own jewelry!

**Riley Wellbrock Buffington '98** and her husband JJ launched a website (<https://TheWellBuffs.com>) to help those who have suffered from strokes, brain injuries and more. Plus it is a great tool for caregivers.

## 2000s



**Claire Navaro Krawsczyn '04** recently had her new book, *Expectant Entrepreneur*, approved for publishing! The book captures the stories of women from across the world who experience the challenges, thrills, hardships, loneliness, and victories of what it means to be a mother and a business owner and the unique characteristics of women who choose to be both at the same time.

**Christine Terzuoli Minix '05** and her family have recently moved back to the Cincinnati area and Christine has a new position as the Director of Ministry at Mercy McAuley High School.

**Lenora Oeters '06** was recently named as the American Cancer Society's Executive Director for Ohio, Northern Kentucky and West Virginia. She will be leading a team of more than 50 dedicated staff and leadership volunteers responsible for area initiatives including Relay For Life®, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer® and other American Cancer Society community-based fundraising initiatives.

**Kristen Welker '07** started a new position in January 2020 as an Assistant Professor of Health Sciences in the College of Medicine at The Ohio State University in Columbus.

## 2010s



**Cassie Lastivka '11** coached high school basketball for the last three years before accepting the Assistant Women's Basketball Coaching position at Wilmington College in July 2020.

**Libby Evans Rose '12** is now serving as both the Events and Social Media Manager as well as the Event Coordinator for Little Miami Brewing Co. helping to coordinate weddings.

**Katie Hack Zimmermann '12** recently earned her doctorate of pharmacy from the University of Cincinnati.

**Olivia Wilmink '14** is celebrating two years as owner and operator of The Better Bin Compost Company which offers service options for residents to divert their food and organic waste streams from landfills in order to produce nutrient rich soil for local food sources and avoid greenhouse gas emissions.

**Brittney Dorton '15** graduated from the University of Chicago with honors this past spring. In her time there she served as the Vice President of Student Government. She completed an honors thesis on the long-term mental health effects of solitary confinement. Following graduation, she accepted a job at Uptown People's Law Center in Chicago, where she previously worked as an intern in their Prisoners' Rights Project. She remains active in community organizing efforts for disability rights and restorative justice.



**Emily Buck '16** helped start an initiative here in Cincinnati called Locally Fed which supports local restaurants while simultaneously feeding those most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In their most recent initiative, they brought food from locally owned businesses to The Cincinnati Welcome Project which supports and feeds local immigrant and refugee families.

**Sammy DeCaprio '16** graduated from Stetson University in May and received the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award by the President of Stetson University. In the past, this award has been given for service and leadership to a number of Supreme Court Justices, Mr. Rogers and Eleanor Roosevelt, just to name a few.

**Grace Scharf '17** scored in the 99th percentile on her Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT).

**Molly Bonino '17** graduated from UC Lindner College of Business and began her career as a revenue analyst with SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment.

**Elizabeth Elin '19** recently placed third nationally in the annual Student Essays in Christian Wisdom Competition sponsored by The Living Church Foundation.

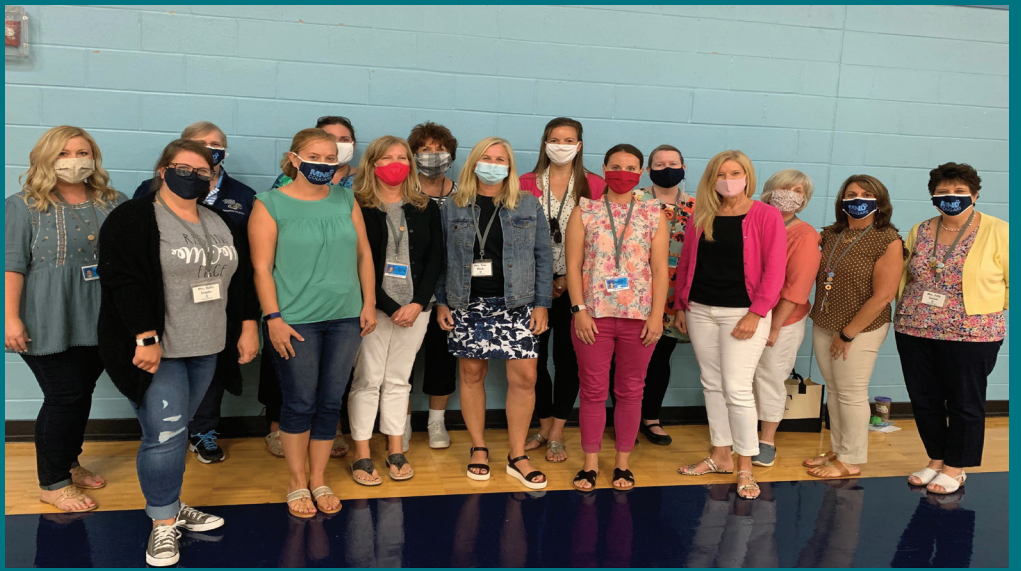


## A Note about Class Notes...

Class Notes are only published when received directly from the individual(s) who are the key focus of the photo or information submitted. This is to ensure the safety and privacy of our alumnae and their families. There is no guarantee that all submissions will be published due to space limitations and printing deadlines. Please submit your news via the What's New Form available on our website.

## ALUMNAE

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE LATEST ALUMNAE NEWS BY FOLLOWING @MNDALUMNAE ON FACEBOOK



Pictured are the 2020-2021 school year alumnae faculty and staff: Kate Anderson Grimm '06, Kelly Cregan Enochs '04, Sr. Ruth Bedinghaus '69, SNDdeN, Anita Lukey '04, Annie Lipps Zoz '89, Maureen Schmitz Mechley '89, Darlene Meyer Santel '68, Tina Linesch Black '85, Jen Vonderbrink '11, Jen Eling Thamann '01, Sarah Dodds Doepker '95, Jennifer Jung Gallo '85, Margie Holtman Linder '77, Terri McMillen Miller '81 and MND President Judy Back Gerwe '78.

# In Memoriam

*Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*



Ruth Westerkamp '46  
(11/24/20)



Mary Schlueter Krumdieck '46  
(1/5/21)



Janet Horner Owens '52  
(12/9/20)



Ginger Schwind Honnerlaw '53  
(12/1/20)



Jean Brockman Austria '53  
(9/28/20)



Mary Joanne Cavanaugh Nordloh '56  
(4/8/20)



Jo Ann Summer-Neus '56  
(12/12/20)



Janet Honerlaw McMahon '59  
(2/15/20)



Linda Laehr O'Leary '60  
(9/23/20)



Judy Bok Tritten '61  
(3/18/20)



Rita Eveleigh '63  
(10/11/20)



Shirley Michel Buescher '66  
(9/30/20)



Kathy Tensing Ellison '68  
(12/24/20)



Sharon Kreiner Harrison '69  
(1/3/21)



Sue Daly Gaebel '69  
(9/15/20)



Kathie Monegan '70  
(12/3/20)



Martha Meyers Anderson '71  
(7/14/20)



Gerri Porfidio Harbison '75  
(1/2/21)



Janet Kamphaus Brock '77  
(9/156/20)



Please keep former MND President Sr. Rita Sturwold, SNDdeN who lost her brother, Robert Sturwold on December 17, 2020 in your prayers.



# Engagements & Weddings



**Karen Glass '03** married Adam Whitelaw on Sept 1, 2019 in Seattle, WA. Four of her bridesmaids were MND alums: **Jessica Porta Livan '03**, **Lindsay Hinger Franke '03**, **Samantha Bramble Bannon '03** and **Carli Baldasare '03**.



**Beth Warning '11** married Jacob Haubner on December 19, 2020 at All Saints Church. They plan to have a renewal reception in October of 2021 to celebrate with all their family and friends.



John and **Bethany Perry Solomon '08** welcomed Murphry Lee on June 8, 2020.



**Emily Ryan '04** and James (Jay) Radley were engaged on October 2, 2020. The couple will be married on October 1, 2021 at Saint Xavier Church in Downtown Cincinnati.



**Mary Sharpshair '16** married Alec Jewell on October 24, 2020. In attendance were **Elizabeth Guye '13**, **Kristine Louis Sharpshair '89**, **Anna Sharpshair Moore '94**, **Mary Juergens '16**, **Nancy Palermo Louis '91**, **Marie Rauchhorst Juergens '84**, **Rose Sharpshair '21**, **Diana Sharpshair Tracy '95**, **Mary-Angela Guye '18**, **Naomi Juergens '19**, **Sophia Sharpshair '20**, **Maria Louis Dunlap '97**, **Maggie McDonald '20**, **Rula Shtiewi Louis '93**, **Josephine Sharpshair '24**, **Amy Beebe McDonald '91**, **Maddie Farlow '16**, **Theresa Guye '12**, and **Bella Garrett '36**.



**Ashley Towle Dutton '10** and her husband Greg welcomed son Jack Edward on December 2, 2020.



**Kate Schaeper '14** married Tyler Guckiean on March 20, 2020. They held a vow renewal reception on October 2, 2020 at Centre Park where several MND alumnae were there to celebrate with them.



**Katie Hack '12** married Anthony Zimmermann at St. Cecilia's Church on September 19, 2020 with the reception being held at the Bell Event Centre.



**Angela Noes Ortman '98** welcomed daughter Charlee Elizabeth on June 24, 2020 weighing 7 pounds and 2 ounces.



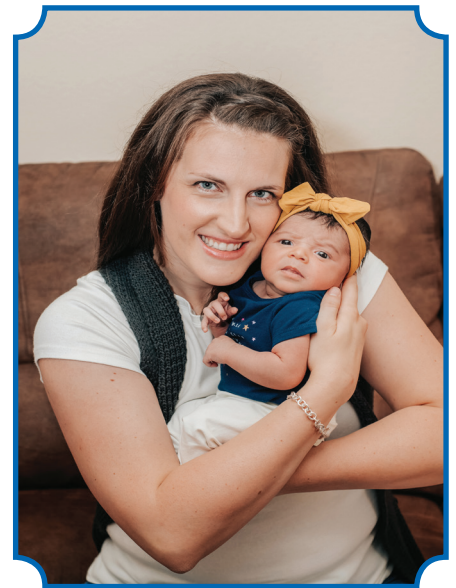
# Births & Adoptions



Andy and **Lindsey Herb O'Brien '01** welcomed Mackenzie on March 17, 2020. She joins big brother Jack.



**Abby Scherpenberg Judd '11** and her husband William welcomed their son William Michael on October 8, 2020.



**Kendall Hackney Udofia '09** with daughter Kyla Carol, named in honor of her mother who passed away in March 2019.



Jeff and **Katherine Hostiuck Branson '02** welcomed son Christopher on April 26, 2020.



**Katie Martin Magnus '03** and her husband, Rob, welcomed son Walt on July 9, 2020 who joins big sister Geneva. Walt and Geneveva are also grandchildren to alumna and former MND faculty member **Sue Herdeman Magnus '69**.



**Ashley Meyer Reinhardt '07** welcomed a baby girl, Emersyn, on May 15th. She joins big brothers Greyson and Jackson.



**Allison Back Linkhart '06** and husband Adam welcomed daughter Olivia Christine Linkhart on March 13, 2020.



**Mary Neuwirth Guthrie '04** welcomed her second baby, Abigail Willa, on December 23, 2019. She joins big sister Elizabeth.



Sean and **Molly McGaffin Gifford '06** welcomed son Jack Timothy Gifford on May 26, 2020.



**Sam Becker Sittner '07** welcomed daughter Goldie on February 28, 2020.



**Amy Brady Niehaus '09** welcomed daughter Amelia Joyce Niehaus on July 15, 2020.



# Girls' Schools Unite!



**All five of Cincinnati's all-girl schools will compete in a battle to see who has the highest percentage of alumnae support their school through donations to the Annual Giving Fund.**

*Save the Dates!*

*May 3-7*

*"I wanted to show some school spirit even at my age!"*

*-Anonymous '68*

*"I donated in honor of a schoolmate/friend who passed away"*

*-Nicole Biersack Scheetner '85*

*"It was a great time to give back to MND and who doesn't love some friendly competition!"*

*-Elizabeth Guye '13*

*"I so appreciate the love and support I received from MND while I was there. Giving to support girls' schools makes me feel like I'm giving another empowered young woman that same feeling."*

*-Sarah Kohl Chasteen '11*

*"I wanted to support MND in the challenge and also knew it was going to a great cause."*

*-Rachel Creeden '19*





**THE GALA 2021**  
*Virtual*  
**MOUNT NOTRE DAME**

Please join us on the evening of

FRIDAY

MARCH

**05**

2021

6:30 PM

*as we host a Virtual Live event!*

*5 Easy Ways to Participate:*

- 🐾 Register for FREE
- 🐾 Raise Your Paddle
- 🐾 Bid on "Live" Auction Items
- 🐾 Silent Auction Items
- 🐾 Make a Donation

BID *high* and *often!*

*Thank You to our Diamond Sponsors*

➤ Path **Forward**

**kdm.**

**T3** DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERS

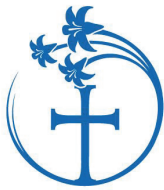
Join the *Fun* by registering using any of these 3 ways:

**Text:** MNDGala to 243725

**Scan:** our QR Code

**Visit:** [www.one.bidpal.net/mndgala](http://www.one.bidpal.net/mndgala)





**MOUNT  
NOTRE DAME**

*Empowering Young Women*

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*Celebrating*



160

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1860 - 2020

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