



THE SHAMROCK

ST. PATRICK PARISH & ALUMNI NEWS

FALL 2019

Class of 1969 Honored at 50-Year Reunion



Front row: Kathy Lehman, Kathie Chamberlain, Doni Knoop, Sue Fox, Mary Kay Kincaid, Laurita Showerman, Barb Beech, Amy Brooks, Pam Brown. Middle row: Jim Thelen, Nick Meyers, Gary Goodman, Anne Russman, Marlene McCallister, Jane Honsowitz, Kathy Schrauben, Leo Frazee, Pat Wohlschied, Marie Cooper. Back row: Jack Manning, John Carbaugh, Brad Fedewa, Russ Thelen, Keith Huhn, Ken Pung, Pat Weller, Bill Hoffman, Pat Schrauben, Chuck Fitzpatrick, Gary Fedewa.

Thirty members of the St. Patrick Class of 1969 were guests of honor at the 50-year reunion hosted by the Father Flohe Foundation on Saturday, September 7, 2019. Classmates were given a tour of the school in the afternoon, followed by the 4:30 Mass, and a prime rib dinner at the Wagon Wheel Oak Room.

Thirty classmates plus many spouses were there, making this one of the largest groups to ever attend the 50-year reunion. (The Class of 1966 also had 30 classmates in attendance.) John Carbaugh journeyed from Kaplan, Louisiana, to earn the distinction as the classmate who traveled the farthest. Many classmates commented after the reunion that he was the life of the party. John is a City Councilman in Kaplan, and by the end of the evening, he had been elevated to Mayor by his classmates.

Memory books, put together by the Father Flohe Foundation, were given

What was happening in 1969?

- The average annual wage was \$6,500.
- Minimum wage was \$1.60 per hour.
- Life expectancy was 70.5 years.
- Top song of the year was *Aquarius/Let the Sunshine in* by The Fifth Dimension.
- According to Nielsen, the top three TV shows were *Laugh In*, *Gunsmoke*, and *Bonanza*.
- Popular Christmas toys were *Big Wheels*, *Silly String*, *Operation*, and *Lite Brite*.
- The Beatles recorded their final album, *Abbey Road*.
- On July 20, Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon.
- In August, over 350,000 rock and roll fans attended a concert in a farmer's field in Woodstock, New York.
- On July 25, Senator Edward Kennedy's car plunged into a pond, killing Mary Jo Kopechne.
- On August 9, Charles Manson and his "family" went on a murder spree killing five people including actress Sharon Tate and her unborn baby.
- *Monty Python's Flying Circus* debuted.
- The first automatic teller machine was installed in the U.S.
- The U.S. instituted the draft lottery to determine draft into U.S. Forces for the Vietnam War.
- Sesame Street, known for its Muppet characters, made its debut on PBS.
- Bell bottom jeans and tie-dye shirts become part of the teenage fashion scene.

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Student Spotlight

Building Bridges of Hope

by Terry and Carmen Austen

Ever since some of their neighborhood friends made about \$8 selling cookies and other baked goods on the sidewalk outside their home, our older children had been begging to do a lemonade stand of their own. Despite living on a low-traffic street and knowing that the stand was doomed to make only a few dollars, we finally agreed to let them set one up. July 8, 2019, was going to be the big day. Their goal was to make enough money to buy some new art supplies like colored pencils, markers, and construction paper.

Things were bound to change, however.

On July 7, we had the pleasure of listening to a wonderful young woman named Kailey Stutzky, who spoke to the St. Patrick congregation about her missionary work with *Building Bridges of Hope* in The Dominican Republic. Those who were there can easily attest that the words and images she used tugged at the heart strings of all in attendance. Right away we knew that we would be making a financial contribution towards the building of a medical clinic, but we wanted to do more than just write a check. On returning home from Mass we sat the kids down and suggested that we use the lemonade stand to raise money for the clinic rather than art supplies. In an instant they were completely on board.

After publicizing the stand through personal friends and the Portland Community Facebook page all we could do was sit back and wait. We didn't have to wait very long. One kind woman stopped by our house that very night to make a donation. The next day several noteworthy things took place.

First, unfortunately, Kailey had some car issues which meant that her vehicle stayed in Portland overnight, but that also meant that we could use her trifold display of the children she helps and the clinic being constructed. The display really added a lot to the stand as it allowed people to see exactly where their contributions were going.

Second, the people of the parish and community were incredibly generous. No one was asking for change and everyone was contributing way more than we were asking. It was overwhelming. We had about 80 visitors to the lemonade stand and raised a whopping \$535 for the clinic.



The Austen children, Francis 10, Maria 9, Patrick 8, Benedict 5, Felicity 3, and Gianna 2 along with their helpers and their customers.

Finally, in making a sacrifice of art supplies so that children could be more adequately cared for in a different country, our children learned a very valuable lesson about generosity. When people found out what the money

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Thank you from Building Bridges of Hope



The people of St. Patrick Parish donated over \$30,000 to the Building Bridges of Hope Mission, enough for them to build the medical clinic that Kailey Stutzky spoke about on July 7. Father Mike received the following message:

Dear Father Alber, We are BLOWN AWAY by the support of you and your parish for this medical clinic on the Haiti border. THANK YOU! We can't say thank you enough. Not only will this donation allow us to build the clinic, but it also encourages us and inspires us to keep moving forward, following where the Lord leads. There wasn't a dry eye in the room as we shared the news with our local and American staff.

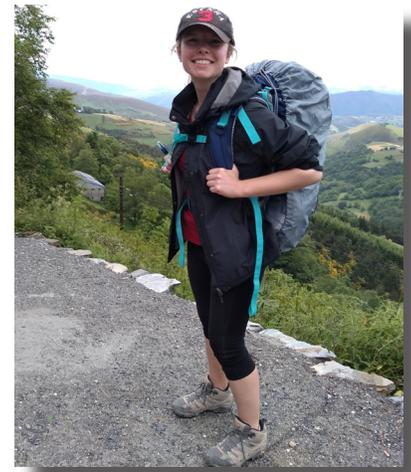
Jessica Carlile
Lay Catholic Missionary
Building Bridges of Hope, Inc.

To read more about Building Bridges of Hope, visit their website: www.bbohdr.org or their Facebook page: [Facebook.com/bbohdr/](https://www.facebook.com/bbohdr/)

In each issue of The Shamrock we will print parent-submitted information about St. Patrick School students and their accomplishments. Information can be sent to shamrockeditors@gmail.com. Deadline for the spring issue is March 15, 2020. It will be mailed in April. Thank you to Terry and Carmen Austen for sending the information for this article.

In the Spotlight

Alaina Pung



Alaina Pung (2013), daughter of Chris and Janet Pung, graduated from Grand Valley State University with a degree in education and is currently teaching high school English in Coldwater, Michigan. Alaina loves to travel, and fortunately, her job allowed her to spend nine weeks this past summer traveling in Europe. For eighteen days of that time she was a pilgrim on Camino de Santiago, The Way of St. James, in Spain. Alaina had heard about this pilgrimage at some point during high school and added it to her bucket list. She admits that she strayed slightly from God after high school and thought that this trip might be a good way to repair her faith and her relationship with God.

Alaina's personal pilgrimage began in Burgos, Spain, and ended at Santiago de Compostela, Spain, a distance of 403 kilometers or 250 miles. Armed with a backpack, a Camino "passport," and her faith, Alaina would start her journey each day at 6:00 a.m. and walk for about eight hours. Along the way, she stopped at locations available to pilgrims for meals, water, rest, and community. Local residents also set up stands along the route with food and water, with the hopes that pilgrims would stop and sign their guest books. Alaina saw amazing scenery and many landmarks, including medieval churches along the way.



Alaina at the 100 km marker. Pilgrims need, at minimum, 100 km to get their compostela (Pilgrim Certificate).

She says that her faith was definitely strengthened on this trip, and that God constantly reminded her to have trust and patience. At one point, she had a particularly difficult 20-km (12+ miles) walk up a mountain in the rain with a poncho that didn't fit. She was also experiencing breathing troubles. "I thought I was tougher than this," she admitted to herself. But despite the difficulties, she made it to the top where she was astounded by the view and thanked God for it.

During this same excursion, which continued up and down hills for another 7 km, she reached a stopping place and saw that a busload of tourists had taken the easy way to the top. "It was my most difficult day and one where it would have been easy to just get on a bus and skip that stage. I found that because I continued, I found a greater

sense of capability, confidence, and oneness with the people that I met that day. I felt that God had put me there, at that specific time, to encounter those people," Alaina says. "Seeing the tourists was an incredible wake up call for how easy it is to stray during everyday life, and, how doing something like the Camino can help bring the wanderer back to what's actually important in life."

Along the Camino, Alaina met pilgrims from many places such as Italy, Lithuania, and The Netherlands. At meals, they would share their stories, including why they were walking the Way. "I guess a big part about the Camino is the sense of community with both fellow pilgrims and locals that I encountered. On my first day, a guy from Minnesota helped me adjust my backpack and showed me the ropes. An albergue (hostel) keeper helped soak my knee after it made strange popping sounds. A group of nuns went incredibly out of their way to help with shipping some things. The list goes on, but everyone was always so helpful and friendly because we were all in this journey together."

Although Alaina traveled alone, as did many pilgrims, she was not afraid. Not only is God "bigger than the bogeyman," there is a sense of community along the Way as well as at the stopping points. Pilgrims could be identified by their symbols of St. James, shells or Knights Templar crosses, in their backpacks. And



At the Santiago de Compostela.

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What's Happening

If you have information that you would like included in the next issue of *The Shamrock*, please send it to shamrockeditors@gmail.com.

BIRTHS

To **Greg and Emily (Bartlett, 2003) Boland** of Gilbert, Arizona, a son, Leo Gregory, on June 19, 2018. He joins sister, Amelia (4).

To **Casey(2009) and Julia (Sandborn, 2009) Schmidt**, a daughter, Kennedy Roselyn, on May 21, 2019.

To **Joseph (2004) and Becky Simon** of Tucson, Arizona, a daughter, Abigail Rose, on May 3, 2019.

To **Brian and Annalise (Kranz, 2008) Laumeyer** of Kentwood, Michigan, a daughter, Lauren Elizabeth, on Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019.

To **Brian (1996) and Kristin Krieger**, a son, Weston Lee, on March 30, 2019. He joins siblings, Bryson (17), Adriana (15), and Keagan (12)

ENGAGEMENTS

Ben Lawless (2012) and Jaquie Platte will be married at St Patrick Church on October 19, 2019.

WEDDINGS

The following weddings took place at St. Patrick Church:

Dustin Parkhouse and Jocelyn Schrauben (2011) were married on May 4, 2019

Jerrid Smith (2012) and Holly Wieber (2012) were married on May 11, 2019.

Doug Gross and Cari German were married on May 18, 2019.

Paul Pung (2012) and Tori Goodrich (2013) were married on June 8, 2019

Anna Bosworth (2013) and Corey Hungerford were married on July 20, 2019.

Collin Lay (2013) and Ellesse Lehman (2013) were married on August 3, 2019.

Kim Kreiner and Dane Schafer were married on August 10, 2019.

Tom Hengesbach and Mary Carra were married on August 17, 2019

Sam Hodge (2017) and Amelia Schrauben (2018) were married on August 31, 2019

Nick Davis (2009) and Samantha Braman were married on September 7, 2019.

Devin Ryan (2012) and Monika Stutzman were married on July 12, 2019, at The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Grand Rapids.

Sarah (Hodge (2010) and James Mason were married on April 27, 2019, in Eagle. They live in Portland.

ANNIVERSARIES

David "Boudy" and Marlene (Schrauben) Lefke celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on August 8, 2019.

Mike and Sue Fox celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on June 1, 2019.

Dick and Shirley Lawless celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on July 24, 2019.

Bob (1962) and Linda (Reichley) Pline celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 2, 2019. The couple met in Japan and were married in 1969 at SS Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Huntington, Indiana. They were blessed with two children, Steve Pline of Coloma, MI and Karen Jonaitis of Grass Lake. A reception to celebrate their anniversary was held at the Portland KC Hall and attended by family and friends. Special guests were a brother and sister who came from Kansas.

Lyle and Judith (Pline, 1958) Brayley celebrated 60 years of marriage on August 21, 2019.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Jerrid Smith (2012) graduated from MSU with a Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness Management on May 4, 2019.

Mackenzie Smith (2015) graduated from Saginaw Valley State University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) on May 10, 2019.

Ben Lawless (2012) graduated with his Doctor of Optometry degree from the Michigan College of Optometry in May 2019.

IN MEMORY OF

Fredrick Norman Denny, age 66, of Waxhaw, North Carolina, passed away October 27, 2016. Fred was born on July 28, 1950, to Fred and Mildred (Fedewa) Denny. He was a technical supervisor for Sun Chemical for 32 years. Fred is survived by his wife, Vickie Rhymes Denny of Washaw, NC; son Fredrick Zachary Denny of Waxhaw, NC; his mother Mildred Denny of Lansing, MI; and his sister Sharon (Gary) Schwab of Caro, MI. Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memorial and Honor Gifts, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Enrique "Rick" Luna, Sr., 67, died unexpectedly on Sunday, March 17, 2019. Rick was born February 29, 1952, in Ionia, Michigan, to Floyd R. and Virginia H. (Hernandez) Luna. On May 22, 1971, he married his high school sweetheart, Cheryl A. Ryerson. Rick is survived by their children, Enrique "Rick" (Theresa) Luna, Jr., Christopher Luna, Andrea (Luke) Simon, Stephanie (Poon) Hinmon; eight grandchildren; his mother, Virginia H. Luna; siblings, Ernest (Pam), Irene, Diana, and

Sophia; also his Ryerson in-laws. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Cheryl; father, Floyd; and in-laws, Beverly and Richard Ryerson. Rick was retired from TRW. He loved helping out with his grandkids and attended all of their sporting and school events. He enjoyed hanging out with his lifelong friends---there are so many stories. Rick also loved riding motorcycles and owned Triumphs and a prized Harley Davidson in his lifetime. Rick spent a lot of time caring for his mother and running her and ALL of the family kids to appointments. For those wishing, contributions may be made to the Portland High School Football Program in memory of Rick.

Donald Leo Schafer, age 80, of Eagle, passed away Thursday, March 28, 2019. He was born on May 21, 1938, the son of Alfred and Caecilia (Schneider) Schafer. Donald was a lifetime member of St. Patrick Catholic Church and was incredibly strong in his faith and devotion to God. Donald was a proud veteran of the U.S. Army. He and his wife, Pauline, shared the hobby of going to the casinos in Las Vegas every year for the past 30 years. Donald was also a lover of good music, specifically classic country songs. Most of all, he loved and adored his family and cherished the time he had spent with them. Preceding Donald in death are his parents; brothers, Marvin, Frederick, Stephen, Clarence, and Alvin Schafer; sisters, Esther and Marie; Pung in-laws; and brothers and sister-in-law, Richard (Judy) Pung and Paul Pung. Donald is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Pauline (Pung) Schafer; daughters, Brenda (Steve) Rogers, Bev (Mike) Gross, and Pam (Richard Park) Schafer; four grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; siblings, Irene Lischkge, Bertha Roggenbuck, Mildred (Art) Schafer, Dorothy Trierweiler, Rita Bashore, Justin (Frieda) Schafer; Schafer sister-in-laws, Marie Schafer, Mary Schafer, Cathy Schafer, and Joyce Schafer, Pung in-laws, Mary Theresa (Mike) Gross, Helen (Lavern) Carr, Roger Pung, Peter (Connie) Pung, and Dennis (Julie) Pung; and many special nieces and nephews. For those wishing, contributions may be made to St. Patrick School or the Fr. Flohe Foundation in memory of Donald.

Annette R. Fetzer, age 67, of Portland, died at Sparrow Hospital on March 31, 2019, after a long battle with fibromyalgia, and more recently, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Annette was born on September 11, 1951, in Ionia, MI, the daughter of Carl P. and Cecilia (Cook) Smith. She graduated from St. Patrick High School in Portland, married Thomas C. Fetzer on March 6, 1971, and retired from Michigan Bell/Ameritech after 28 years of service. Annette was Co-Queen of the Portland Red

Hatters (River Hatters) group and enjoyed planning their outings. She was a member of the St. Patrick hand bell choir, enjoyed music, dancing, traveling to tropical places, and summers at the Silver Lake Sand Dunes. Annette was preceded in death by her father, Carl P. Smith; father-in-law and mother-in-law, George and Irene Fetzer; and sister-in-law, Ann (Fetzer) Stonebrook. Surviving are her husband of 48 years, Thomas Fetzer of Portland; mother, Cecilia Smith of Hastings; siblings, Agnes (William) Fedewa of Shelby Twp., Mary Ann (John) Augst of Sunfield, Loretta (Thomas) Schelter of East Lansing, and Ronald (Patricia) Smith of Grand Ledge; in-laws, Pete (Patricia) Fetzer of Indian River and Gary Fetzer of Mulliken; 10 nieces and nephews; 1 step-niece; 1 step-nephew; aunts; and many cousins. Memorial contributions may be made to Portland St. Patrick's Fr. Flohe Foundation or the Portland Community Fund in memory of Annette.

If you have announcements
for What's Happening
(births, weddings,
engagements, anniversaries,
graduations, etc.)
send them to The Shamrock.
See page 19 for email and
address information.

Elizabeth "Betty" C. Honsowitz, age 92, of Portland, passed away on Monday, April 8, 2019. She was born on April 17, 1926, the daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Gensterblum) Lenneman. Betty was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Portland. She enjoyed sewing, puzzles, and watching sporting events, especially the Detroit Tigers. Betty was always interested in what her grandchildren and great grandchildren were doing in their lives. She also was proud that she finished the 8th grade at St. Mary's School in Westphalia. Betty moved to Portland in her younger years and worked at Barley-Earhart during WWII. She is preceded in death by her husband, Hugh Honsowitz; daughter, Victoria (Leonard) VanAlstine; son, Michael Honsowitz; sisters, Lillian Fox and Esther Nurenberg; brothers, Ronald Lenneman, Eugene Lenneman, Edward Lenneman, and Gerald Lenneman; great granddaughter, Lindsay VanAlstine; great grandson, Blake Honsowitz. Surviving are her children, Joseph (Eileen) Honsowitz of Eaton Rapids, Barb (Clyde "Skip") Bever of Portland, Thomas (Janice) Honsowitz of Lexington Park, MD; daughter-in-law, Jane

Honsowitz; 18 grandchildren; 43 great grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Connie Lenneman and Dorothy Lenneman; sister, Joanne McCloud; special friends, Cheri Kloptenstein and Deb Beard. Memorial contributions may be made to the Portland Area Service Center in memory of Betty.

Michael "Mikey" S. Pohl, age 65, of Eagle, passed away on Tuesday, April 16, 2019. He was born on November 1, 1953, in Lansing, the son of Walter and Laurine (Koenigsknecht) Pohl. Mikey was a lifelong farmer; he loved to hunt, have a few beers, and play euchre. He was a member of the N.R.A., the North American Hunting Club and the Catholic Order of Foresters. Mikey will be greatly missed by his cows, numerous cats, and the now unemployed third shift at the brewery. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Eileen Pohl; brother, Kenny Pohl; and brother-in-law, Paul Hengesbach. Surviving are his sisters, Kathy Hengesbach, Patty Pohl, and Diane Pung; dear friends, Ashley and Angel "Maria"; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Bernard "Bud" Hoppes, Jr., of Portland, age 83, passed away April 16, 2019. He was born March 22, 1936, in Portland, the son of Bernard and Pauline (Lehman) Hoppes, Sr. Bud was a lifelong farmer and enjoyed collecting antiques. He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Virginia; and two grandsons, Joshua Hoppes and John Daily. Surviving him are his children, Anthony (Terri) Hoppes, Jeffrey (Marcia) Hoppes, Suzanna "Sue" (Greg) Goodman, and Tammie Fields; 13 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-grandchildren; and sisters, Marilyn Muirhead and Eleanor Lynch.

Rita Eleanor (Weber) Sunday, of Portland, age 88, passed away on Tuesday, April 16, 2019. She was born on August 29, 1930, in Fowler, the daughter of William and Catherine (Goege) Weber. Rita was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church and the choir. She was also a member of the V.F.W. Post #4090 Ladies Auxiliary. Rita loved volunteer work, especially with the Ionia Co. Literacy Council. She enjoyed reading, doing crossword puzzles, and camping with her family. She was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Robert; her parents; brothers, Herman, Robert, William, James, George, and Lawrence Weber; and sisters, Helen Simmon, Dorothy Melvin, and Joan Hoppes; many sisters and brothers-in-law; and son-in-law, Michael David. Surviving are her brother, Urban Weber; children, Kenneth Sunday, William (Jean) Sunday, Debra (Dan) Trinter, Richard (Linda) Sunday, Patti (Steve) Townsend, Eric (Dorothy) Sunday,

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Mrs. Cortney Smith New PS-8th Grade Principal

We are excited to introduce St. Patrick School Principal Mrs. Cortney Smith. Mrs. Smith is overseeing Preschool-8th grades, while Mr. Randy Hodge will be in charge of the high school.



Mrs. Smith's background includes 13 years of teaching experience. Most recently, she served St. Patrick School for one year as kindergarten teacher, and prior to that, she taught for 12 years in Grand Ledge Public Schools.

Mrs. Smith earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Michigan State University and a master's degree in educational leadership from Central Michigan University.

Father Mike Alber said, "I am excited to have the opportunity to work with Mrs. Smith as the elementary principal of St. Patrick School. She comes to us as a parent of current and future students, the spouse of an alum, an active member of our parish, and a teacher in our school. I can see great things for our future as a school under her leadership."

Mrs. Smith believes that education is a partnership, with teacher, parents, and student working together to achieve individual goals. "I take great pride in caring for the whole student and their family," said Mrs. Smith. "St. Patrick School is special in that Jesus Christ is the foundation of everything we do — and I am committed to fostering excitement and growth, both spiritually and academically. I will guide and encourage students, parents and faculty,

celebrating the self-confidence, skills, and love of learning which form the foundation for continued success.

Mrs. Smith is married to St. Patrick alum, Troy Smith. The couple has three children.

St. Patrick Introduces Multi-Age Kindergarten

Kindergarten looks a little different this year, as St. Patrick School introduces Multi-Age Kindergarten for our younger students. Multi-age kindergarten is the integration of the Young 5 (formally DK) students with the kindergarten students. These two classrooms will be taught by Mrs. Stacy Russman and Mrs. Amy Weems.

Mrs. Russman and Mrs. Weems, who have a combined 40 years of classroom experience, will work collaboratively and independently to meet the needs of all the students, using whole group, flexible smaller groups, and individual instruction.

Multi-age classrooms allow more customized instruction and have been found to increase student engagement



and achievement. Social development has also been shown to increase in multi-age classrooms as younger students interact with older ones and learn from them.

By making the transition to multi-age kindergarten, St. Patrick School will be able to offer more options to school families and help them transition from preschool programming through early elementary and beyond.



Developing and Advancing St. Patrick School

by Liz Hager

Liz (Manning, 2000) Hager is a member of the St. Patrick School Board Development and Advancement team.

I am a graduate of St. Patrick School. My grandfather went to St. Pat's, and so did all of my sisters. Now I have children of my own who are current and future students at the school. Helping St. Patrick's grow and continue to prosper is something I have been drawn to so that I can return some of what I gained from my years here as a student.

I am excited to tell you about the Development and Advancement team that is that working to build a scholarship program that will help other children enjoy the kind of educational experience that you and I received during our time at St. Pat's. St. Patrick students receive an education for both their minds and their souls, that isn't found in every educational setting.

My classmates and I were fortunate to have excellent teachers who helped form us into the successful adults that we are today. Mrs. Kathy Cook taught me what proper grammar should look and sound like. (Despite my tendency for run-on sentences that lasts to this day... sorry Mrs. Cook!) That foundation has helped me tremendously when writing papers in college, emails at work, and many professional communications. Mrs. Jan Supina taught us to find little moments for prayer throughout our day, and that is still a part of me all these years later. So many other formative teachers at St. Pat's truly helped shape me into the person I am today. My 13 years at St. Pat's helped instill in me an internal drive to always try my best.

They say it takes a village to raise a child. I am so glad to have been raised in the village of St. Patrick's, and I'm glad that my own children will be as well. Sufficient scholarships will help us ensure that the next generation has the opportunity to be the best that they can be, regardless of their family's financial ability.

The great thing is that today YOU can be the one to make a difference in the future of our students and the educators that help them grow! These students are the future of both our church and community.

Would you like more information that explains how YOU can start a scholarship at St. Patrick School? It's not difficult, and we will help you through the process. Contact the school office or send an email to FatherFloheFoundation@portlandstpats.org.

Contributions to the Foundation or made directly to the school will likely create tax benefits for you, and lifelong benefits to the students of St. Patrick's long after my run-on sentences end.

Kaye Sandborn Selected as Teacher of the Year

On Wednesday, April 24, 2019, Portland VFW Post 4090 presented Kaye Sandborn to the Saint Patrick School Board as their choice for the 2019 High School Teacher of the Year.

Post Commander, William Almy, addressed the school board by explaining, "Each year Post 4090 is given the opportunity to recognize and honor the teachers from our community who we feel have gone above and beyond the call."



Left to right: Commander Bill Almy, Principal Randy Hodge, Kaye Sandborn, Dave Reed, and Mike Fox.

He went on to say, "Mrs. Sandborn started her teaching career at the age of 40." She says her greatest accomplishments are, "watching students graduate at her school and knowing that she played a part in their achievement."

Before Commander Almy presented the award, he shared information on the number of VFW posts that compete for Teacher of the Year nomination. "In our district, which is district 9, there are 32 VFW posts scattered throughout six counties. All 32 posts are given the opportunity to nominate a teacher from elementary, middle school, and high school. "

Kaye Sandborn was selected for both Post 4090 High School Teacher of the year and District 9 High School Teacher of the year.



Old Convent/Annex Building Demolished



Early this summer, the brown building on the corner of West and Center Streets was demolished. The building was the former residence of the Sisters of St. Joseph, who taught at St. Patrick School for several decades. Later the building was used for Miss Carol's Preschool, St. Patrick Daycare/Preschool, and Youth Ministry. For the past few years, the deteriorated condition made it unusable for anything but storage.

The parcel of land will be provide green space in the near future and eventually will be used for additional parking.

The Little Manger Adoration Chapel

Adoration Hours

Monday
Noon-7:00 pm
Wednesday
Noon-11:00 pm
Thursday
9 am- Noon
1st Fridays
10:00 am-midnight



If those times don't fit your schedule, call Mike Cook at 517-242-1352 to get the code for keyless entry.

The Little Manger Adoration Chapel is located on Church Street across from the east entrance to the church.

Join Us This Fall

by Carolyn Heckman,
Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization

All of these groups are open to everyone. There is no need to register, and you can attend as often as your schedule allows. Bring a friend! If you have questions, please contact me at carolynheckman@portlandstpats.org.



TMIY (That Man Is You!) Men's Leadership Program equips men to become fully alive in work, family, faith and culture. Saturday mornings in the parish hall. Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.; concludes at 10:00 a.m. ; began September 14, 2019.



LIT (Ladies in Truth) is a group of women of all ages and backgrounds who gather to pray, discuss and learn together. All women are welcome! Saturday mornings, 8:30-10:00 a.m., room #110 in the school. Childcare available; began September 14, 2019.

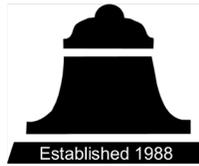


Alpha begins with the chance to share a meal and get to know our neighbors. Guided by a facilitator, there is an engaging video and interactive discussion on a new topic each night. Mondays nights; began September 16, 2019, in the parish hall.



Healing Our Church provides parishioners a solid reflection tool that will help them navigate the abuse crisis through discussion, faith sharing, and community with others who are hurting yet praying for change in the Church. Wednesday nights, 6:30-8:00 p.m., beginning October 16, 2019.

Hope to see you there!



The Father Flohe Foundation's Mission Statement:

To ensure the stability of St. Patrick School as a K-12 school for future generations, the Father Flohe Foundation will provide funds to assist in meeting the operating costs of the school, assist in the furnishing and/or improvements of the school, and assist in the support of any present/new programs at the school.

The Father Flohe Foundation:

- Has contributed in excess of \$1,568,000 to the school since 1989.
- Has received gifts from donors of approximately \$2,222,100 since 1988.
- Awards the Father Flohe Education Bell Award annually to an alumnus of St. Patrick School who in their life has exemplified the high goals and accomplishments that a graduate of St. Pat's can achieve.
- Annually awards the Marie Leik-Slowinski Scholarship, the Msgr. Zervas Scholarship, Leik Trade School Scholarship, and the Pung/LaJoy Scholarship.
- Provides funding for the *The Shamrock Newsletter*.
- Coordinates and provides a celebration for each of the graduating high school classes in honor of their 50th reunion.

Planned Giving - Tax Advantages

How can you do your part in ensuring Catholic education for future generations at St. Patrick's? There are many ways to contribute to St. Patrick School through the Father Flohe Foundation including:

- Gifts of cash
- Securities and Real Estate
- Life Insurance
- Other Appreciated Assets

Planned giving not only benefits the school, it also provides substantial tax benefits to the giver. The Father Flohe Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization, so contributions are tax deductible. For more information on any of these options or additional gift plans, contact your tax advisor, CPA, insurance agent, or legal consultant.

Education Bell Award Presented to Sandy Pearson

On Sunday, June 30, 2019, Sandy Pearson (1988) was presented with the 2018 Father Flohe Foundation Education Bell Award. Complete information about Sandy's life and accomplishments was published in the spring issue of *The Shamrock*.



At the presentation ceremony, which took place in the church after the 11:30 Mass, Father Mike also did a special marriage blessing for Sandy and her husband Rob, as well

as for both of their sets of parents. All three couples are celebrating milestone anniversaries this year. Rob and Sandy have been married 25 years; Bill and Pam Brown have been married 50 years; and Bob and Dotti Pearson have also been married 50 years. Congratulations to all!



Nominations Open

If you would like to nominate someone for the Father Flohe Foundation Education Bell Award, please visit the St. Patrick School website for instructions and a form. Go to www.portlandstpats.com/school > Other Links > Father Flohe Foundation.

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The Holy Eucharist is Back in the Sanctuary

by Ken Schneider

St. Patrick Church was built in 1926 and the sanctuary remained mostly untouched for the first 50 years. In 1976, under the administration of Father Donald Weber, the sanctuary of the church was remodeled to meet the standards set forth by Vatican II. Parishioners from that era will remember the removal of the marble altar that stood beneath the stained glass windows. It was replaced with the altar that is used today. A stark wooden wall was constructed in the sanctuary, and the tabernacle was moved to the side chapel. Another church renovation occurred in 1997 at the end of Father Julian's tenure. The wooden wall with roman arches was a better fit for our Gothic-style church, but the tabernacle was still absent from the sanctuary. It's back now, where it belongs, and here is the story of how that happened.

It started with drawer dividers. Father Mike wanted some dividers installed in a drawer in the sacristy and asked one of our dedicated sacristans for the name of a parishioner who could build them. As a retired vocational education (shop) teacher, I'm glad my name was shared with Father. When I completed this job, Father asked me if I could build a table behind the altar to bring the tabernacle back into the sanctuary. My suggestion was to build a niche into the wall and use the existing granite slab from the chapel. He liked the idea but also envisioned an arch above the niche.

As these plans were being finalized, I asked Father if he had seen the old wooden altar in the church basement. I knew it was stored down there because I helped my father, Dick Schneider, who was the maintenance mechanic for 30 years at St. Pat's, with custodial work since I was in junior high school.

Father said he had been in the basement to check it out, but didn't see an altar. I said it was way in the back under the vestibule. I informed him that I always thought it was from the original St. Patrick church. As soon as he saw it he said, "We're using this!"

The old altar was in rough shape with evidence of minor fire damage and split woodwork. We agreed that we would strip the old paint and have it repainted. As we were stripping the paint we determined that there was at least two layers of paint with evidence of gilding to highlight the columns and front panels.

I was able to find a commercial decorator, H. L. Bolkema Painting and Decorating of Grand Rapids, that could

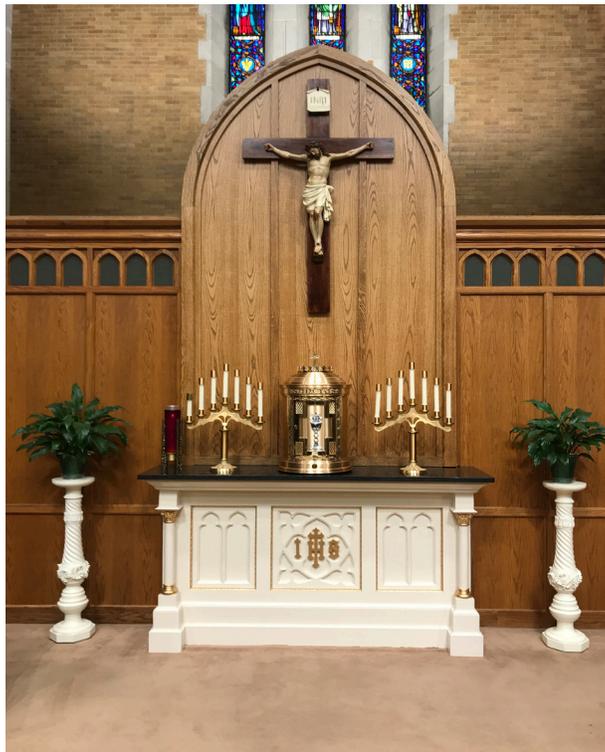
replace the gilding. The owner initially said they had some gilding material left over from a previous job and would only charge for the labor but later agreed to donate the entire job. Mike McCausey of Divine Auto Body agreed to paint the old altar and when asked, he responded that it would be an honor.

Building the arch was the most challenging project I've ever undertaken. After several sleepless nights and many prayers to St. Joseph, patron saint of carpenters, I realized the arch was a roman arch. A Google search helped me remember the geometry skills I learned from Sister Andrew, and I was able to lay out and construct it.

The "new" tabernacle had been stored in the church attic above the reconciliation room for many years. Father sent it out to be polished and restored. The tabernacle that was in the chapel

for the past decades is now in use at the Little Manger Eucharistic Adoration Chapel. Father Mike also sent the crucifix original to the church to be restored. It now hangs in the sanctuary above the tabernacle.

The tabernacle move from the chapel back into the sanctuary took the efforts and support of many parishioners and businesses. A special thank you to Father Mike for his inspiration, a donation from a generous parishioner, and those who assisted including Alex Smith – West Michigan Granite, Amy Smith, Dale Kramer, Dan Arwood, Dave Snitgen, Dick Brown, Jeff Bolkema – H.L. Bolkema Decorating and Painting, Gerry O'Brien, Ken Schneider, Mike McCausey – Divine Auto Body, Mike Theis, Pat Heckman, Rich Schneider, Steve Pohl, and Tom Klein.



Bringing back the Glory of St. Patrick Church



The sanctuary of St. Patrick Church in 1972 and 1976. Note that in the second photo, the communion rail has been removed; a new altar has been installed, facing the congregation; a modern-looking wooden wall has been constructed to hide the area where the original altar stood; and a wooden structure containing lights and speakers has been suspended from the ceiling over the altar.



The old wood altar, which we think was part of the original wooden church, had been stored in the church basement under the vestibule for many, many years. It was constructed of pine in three sections. The rear section was a simple wood frame rail and stile with panels. The top section had a pine tabernacle with some scraps of linen lining. Unfortunately, the doors were missing. This section included candle risers attached on each side. The front section is the only part of the original altar that was used to bring the Eucharist back into the sanctuary.

In an effort to restore some of the original details to St. Patrick Church, Father Mike sent the statues of Mary, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Joseph, and St. Patrick to be restored. They have been returned and look beautiful.



The original baptismal font, previously located in the vestibule of the church, has also been located, but the price to refurbish it (\$7500) has been deemed too expensive, so it will be stored in the church basement for the time being.

Additionally, the original nativity scene has been returned with plans to restore these items in the near future as funds become available.



Donations to offset the expense of these renovations can be sent to St. Patrick Parish, 140 Church St., Portland, MI 48875, or placed in the collection basket in an envelope clearly marked "Church Renovations."

If you have artifacts that originally belonged to St. Patrick Church, and if you would be willing to donate them back, please contact the parish office (517) 647-6505.

alumni news

Reunion Information

The *Class of 1988* used St. Pat's Summer Fest as a gathering place for their unconventional 31-year reunion. The turnout was small, but everyone who attended had a great time.



On August 17, 2019, St. Patrick *Class of 2009* celebrated their 10-year class reunion. They started the afternoon with a golf scramble at Centennial Acres, followed by dinner, yard games, and a bonfire. Attendees included 15 alumni out of the 21 member class.



The *Class of 1984* celebrated its 35-year reunion on Saturday, September 7. Boomer Trierweiler hosted the group who set sail down the Grand River on a pontoon barge; followed by a catered dinner at the pond, and reminiscing around the bonfire.



The 20 year reunion for the *Class of 1999* was held on July 13, 2019. During the day a group of classmates and spouses kayaked the Grand River between Grand Ledge and Eagle. The daytime events were followed up with a dinner in the Oak Room at the Wagon Wheel in Portland. Eighteen classmates attended the dinner which was exactly half of the 36 graduating in 1999. Mick Hamburg traveled all the way from Tennessee, and Andrea Weller traveled all the way from Connecticut to join in the fun. Everyone had a great time!



OTHER REUNIONS

These classes also have reunions scheduled. Their info and photos will be in the spring issue:

- Class of 1974--September 14
- Class of 1979--October 5

When you have your class reunion, please don't forget to send information and a group photo to shamrockeditors@gmail.com.

Classes who graduated in years ending in 0 and 5 will be holding reunions next year. Please contact us as soon as you have any information about your reunion.

50-Year Reunion Planned for Class of 1970

Members of the Class of 1970—mark your calendars for the special 50-year reunion that will be held in your honor next year. The date will be Saturday, September 12, 2020.

The Father Flohe Foundation will contact you in the spring, asking you to send information for a class reunion book. You will also receive an invitation and complete information about the reunion. There is no cost to you! We want you to be the guests of honor, have a good time, and not have to do any of the work. Mark your calendars now!

Can You Identify This Group?

Who are these people? Do you recognize them? Why are they in costume? What is the occasion? We'll give you a hint: This fall marks the 50-year anniversary of the event. Send your memories and information to shamrockeditors@gmail.com.



Do You Know What This Is?

Dan Lenneman (1973) sent a picture of an item that he found. He thinks it might have been an award or a gift that was given to students when he was in school. It is a four-leaf clover, about 4" high, and it has the following inscription:



ONE LEAF IS FOR HOPE,
AND ONE IS FOR FAITH,
AND ONE IS FOR LOVE, YOU KNOW,
AND GOD PUT ANOTHER IN FOR LUCK.

If you can provide any information, please contact shamrockeditors@gmail.com.

Longtime Shamrock Coach Retires

If you have been a member of the Shamrock girls basketball team in the last few decades, chances are you had Christina Spedoske as your coach. After 21 seasons of volunteering as the 5th grade girls basketball coach, Chris has decided to retire.

There are very few coaches, at any level, that coach for 20+ seasons, let alone on a volunteer basis. She has been instrumental in introducing our young female athletes to the game and fundamentals of basketball, and she will be missed. Thank you, Chris, for your dedication to the St. Patrick's girls basketball program!

If you see Chris around town, please be sure to thank her for her time and dedication to St. Patrick's athletics.



Show Your Shamrock Pride!

Visit our Spirit Wear online store

fabricatedcustoms.com/collections/st-patrick



Full zip and 3/4 zip jackets are uniform approved to be worn in school.

Orders can be shipped for a flat rate of \$5 or picked up at 212 Kent Street Portland, MI 48875

Adult, youth, child sizes available. New items added weekly. (517) 449-3027

You are invited to Portland St. Patrick School

HOMECOMING & TAILGATE/PORK ROAST

Bring your family and friends for dinner then stay to cheer on the Shamrocks!

Hotdogs, Buns, Drinks
provided by St. Patrick PTO

Pork Roast
*Provided by Ashton King Farm Bureau
and Sweet Caroline's*

Families should bring a dish to pass



October 5, 2019
Begins at 5:30 p.m.
PHS Field

Spring Picture Contest

FORMER PLAYERS REMEMBER IT WELL

Readers were asked to share their knowledge and memories about this photo. Two of the players on the team wrote to The Shamrock with their memories of the infamous game.

Gary Fedewa (1971) remembers that it was the 1969 St. Patrick Annual Christmas Tournament. It was held at the Portland High School (now the Middle School). It was the championship game that went into four overtimes and was won by the Shamrocks. Shown in the picture: Pat McGraner, Al Schrauben, Tom Schneider, Gary Fedewa, Steve Nowak, Mike Simon, Bob Keusch, Keith Schrauben, Tom Manning, Roger Cook, and Coach Jerry McDevitt



Pat McGraner (1970) shared some additional information: "That picture was taken after beating Carson City-Crystal in four OT at the Christmas Tournament in PHS gym in 1969. Only six guys played in the game with no one fouling out -- five Sr. starters and Al Schrauben, freshman, #13 who became a legend as the girls' BB coach at St. Pat's winning a few State Championships.

"But...here's the real story. My dad was working as a janitor at PHS at the time. There was standing room only at several of the games, and of course the championship game was packed. At one end of the court there was a row of light switches that people who were standing would sometimes lean on and accidentally turn the lights off during the games.

"So Dad was dutifully assigned or self-assigned to stand by the lights to make sure that no one leaned against them. At one point during one of the OTs, he forgot his assignment in the intensity of the game and he leaned on the lightswitch, turning off the lights! Fortunately, he did this as someone was about to shoot a free throw so it did not affect any play.

"As the lights came back on, he was very sheepishly grinning to a polite applause for a job mostly well done.

"I also remember Steve's mom couldn't watch the endings of close games, so she would go outside and smoke cigarettes until it was over. Hope she had a full pack that night."

CATHOLIC HUMOR



A priest is driving and gets stopped for speeding. The state trooper smells alcohol on the priest's breath and then sees an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car. He says, "Father, have you been drinking?"

"Just water," says the priest, fingers crossed. The trooper says, "Then why do I smell wine?" The priest looks at the bottle and says, "Praise be to God! He's done it again!"

THE AUSTEN KIDS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

was originally going to be used for, they started bringing art supplies with them to give to the kids. The amount of supplies donated was ten times what they would have been able to purchase with a few meager dollars earned from a stand meant for themselves. Generosity is contagious, and God promises that he will repay us when we sacrifice for others. Every single time we have given from more than just our excess we have always felt peace in that decision. There has never been a time when we thought later that it would have been better if we had given less.

We would like to thank the parish community for their generosity and for helping our children to learn a valuable lesson about giving and trusting that the Lord will always provide.

Portland St. Patrick Fall Festival

Buffet-Style Roast Beef/Ham Dinner
11a.m. - 2 p.m.

Huge Arts & Crafts Show
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Kidfest Activities for the Kids
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Half Marathon/5K Race
8:00 a.m.

Euchre Tournament
12:30 p.m.

Raffle
3:00 p.m.

October 13, 2019

122 West Street, Portland
Always the 2nd Sunday
in October!

www.stpatsfallfestival.webs.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

Sandra (Steve) Lehman, Valerie David, Vicki (William) Mead, John (Bobbi Jo Sedelmaier) Sunday, Sue Sunday (Steve Eissinger), Kay (Rick Bowling) Udry; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and several sisters and brothers-in-law. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association in memory of Rita.

Frederick Paul Steed, age 72, of Portland, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Thursday, May 2, 2019. He was born on August 14, 1946, in Grand Rapids, the son of Frederick and Pauline (Lenning) Steed. Fred was a member of St. Patrick Church, Knights of Columbus #2168, and V.F.W. Post #4090. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during the Vietnam War then the National Guard (1974-1986) retiring as a Major. He served on the Portland Police Department (1975-1977) and the Ionia Co. Sheriff Department (1977-2003), serving as the Undersheriff and the Jail Administrator along the way. He loved the outdoors and photographing wildlife. Fred was a Boy Scout leader, involved with prison ministry and a founding member of the Pheasants Forever Portland Chapter. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Sandra Sue Steed in 2000; brother, Ralph (Santee) Steed; and son-in-law, David Cogdill. Surviving are his wife, Sandy (Thelen) Steed; children, James (Brytten) Steed of Missoula, MT, Christina (Michael) O'Brien of Moline, IL, Stacie (Joe) Castillo of Ionia and Corey (Amanda) Coyne of Fowlerville; four grandchildren; brother, Gerald (Carol) Steed of Comstock Park. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Patrick Church or the V.F.W. Post # 4090 in memory of Fred.

Dawn Alice Fedewa, 95, passed away May 6, 2019, in Livonia, MI. She was born in Ovid, Michigan, to Harley and Hettie (Stump) Day on February 15, 1924. Dawn met Jerry Fedewa on a blind date, and they were married in 1942. They raised a family of nine children in Portland, retired to Cadillac, and then to Dimondale to be closer to family. Dawn is preceded in death by her husband in 2005. She also lost two sons, Gary and Roger. She is survived by one brother, Elwood Day of Wacousta; children Russell (Susan) Fedewa, Colleen wirth, Cathleen Mleko, Diane (Bruce) Leonard, Elaine Dee, Amy (Craig Bullis), Lori (Rick) Caraway, and Debra Fedewa; 24 grandchildren; and over 30 great grandchildren.



Denise 'Dee Dee' Lee Hoppes, 63, of Lansing, MI, passed away May 11, 2019 due to lung cancer. She was born June 30, 1955, to Stanley and Joan (Weber) Hoppes and grew up in Portland, MI. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Luke Hoppes. She is survived by her significant other of 30 years, Michael McConnaughey; her son, Eric (Stephanie) Best; two granddaughters; siblings, Roxanne Burnham, Michael (Cindy) Hoppes, Patrick (Dora) Hoppes; sister-in-law Sandy Hoppes; and many nieces and nephews. She adored her granddaughters and they adored her – they were the loves of her life! She enjoyed going to estate and garage sales for great finds and surprise gifts– especially for her granddaughters. Memorial contributions may be made to Mother Teresa House, 308 N. Walnut, Lansing, MI 48933 in lieu of flowers.

Gery Adam Beachnau, age 63, of Portland, passed away Monday, May 27, 2019. Gery was born May 14, 1956, in Lansing, the son of Esten "Red" and Jeanette (Pohl) Beachnau. Gery graduated from Pewamo-Westphalia High School in 1974 where he played football and was an All State honorable mention running back and linebacker. He was a proud graduate of MSU in 1979 with a BS degree in Forestry. He worked for over 35 years for Kraft Foods managing key accounts for large national companies. He was an avid MSU Spartan fan; he loved golf with a passion. He was a hard working perfectionist in work and play. Most of all he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Gery is preceded in death by his parents. Surviving are his wife of 22 years, Paula; children, Mahria (Craig) Wasnich, Jessica (Roger) Wartella, Kate (Tyler) Wakley, Justin O'Neill, Chris (Cali) O'Neill, and Mac O'Neill; nine grandchildren; siblings, Dr. Bruce (Diane) Beachnau of Portland, Dawn (Mark) Thelen of Portland, Dan (Deb) Beachnau of Lansing, Todd Beachnau of Oregon, Dorothea (Dr. Carl) Fischer of Ann Arbor, and Dale (Adel) Beachnau of Westphalia; special friends, Doug and Lynn Kramer, Barb and Rick Davison, and Nick Blauwikel; godsons, Kyle Beachnau and Darrin Thelen; and many special nieces and nephews.

Sharon L. Hoppes, age 80, of Portland, passed away Wednesday, June 5, 2019 surround by her family. She was born February 17, 1939, to Roy and Thelma (White) Porter. Sharon was a faithful member of St. Patrick Catholic Church. She enjoyed a good game of cards, fishing, and camping. She loved the casino and the family's annual trip to Brimley. Sharon also took pleasure in reading, gardening, and canning. She adored

her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, whom she liked to host bingo parties for. Preceding Sharon in death are her parents; husband, James "Jim" Hoppes; infant son, James Leroy; brothers, Ron (Nancy) Porter and William Porter; son-in-law, Herb Platte; granddaughter, Amber Rose Platte; in-laws, Tim Glynn, Virginia Townsend, Colleen Trierweiler, Dick (Carol) Hoppes, Stanley (Joan) Hoppes, Leon (Geraldine) Hoppes, Jerry Hoppes, and Alice Hoppes. Surviving Sharon are her children, Toni (Chuck) Miller, Craig Hoppes, Joe (Marian) Hoppes, Bonnie (Bob) Rockey, Michelle (David) Nurenberg, Kirk (Michele) Hoppes, Victor Hoppes, Becky (Scott) Hodge, Kristina (Dan) Platte; 28 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; siblings, Jean (Jack) Mushung, Judy Finney, Gary (Audrey) Porter, and Shirley Glynn; and in-laws, Alice Kelly, Joe Hoppes, Larry (Dee Dee) Hoppes, Tom (Jill) Hoppes, Bill Trierweiler, Mary Hoppes, and Oscar Townsend.

Dolores Helen Houser, 83, of St. Johns, MI, passed away on June 13, 2019. Dolores was born in Portland, on September 18, 1935, the daughter of Peter and Helen Gensterblum. She was a graduate of Portland St. Pat's High School. Dolores married Allen Houser in 1956; he passed away in 2013. She is survived by her children, Scott (Reva) Hauser of St. Johns, John (Jennifer) Houser of Fort Wayne, IN; six grandchildren; siblings Sr. Bernita Marie Gensterblum, Louise (Bill) Hansas, Eleanor Peake, Barbara (Pete) Densmore, Jim (Louise) Gensterblum. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and 12 siblings. Memorials may be made to St. Vincent dePaul.

Virginia "V.A." Goodrich, age 88, of Portland, passed away on Tuesday, July 30, 2019. She was born on June 23, 1931, the daughter of Paul and Sena (Peterson) Spohn. V.A. was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church. She enjoyed reading, writing letters, selling linens, traveling, and going to the casino. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Al; children, Susie Csepregi and Jerry Goodrich; brother, Larry Spohn; sister, Elaine "Bugsy" Willemin. Surviving are her children, Roxanne Estell of Lansing, Ted (Vicki) Goodrich of DeWitt, David (Cherie) Goodrich of Grand Ledge, Tim Goodrich of Portland, Mary Pline Goodrich of Portland, Tony (Rhonda) Goodrich of Portland and Krista (Tom) Fox of Lowell; daughter-in-law, Janice Goodrich; many grandchildren and great grandchildren; siblings, Doreen (Jack) Warder, Diane (Denny) Goff, Dan (Margo) Spohn, Don (Karen) Spohn, Debbie (Dan) Grohs and Ellen Lentz; many nieces and nephews.

Virginia Eileen Zimmerman of Charlotte, passed away August 2, 2019, in Lansing. Virginia was born August 20, 1952, in St. Johns, Michigan, to the late Nick and Helen (Simunek) Zimmerman. She graduated from Portland St. Patrick High School Class of 1970 and went on to work for the State of Michigan Department of Management and Budget. In her early years, Virginia was a great athlete and enjoyed playing softball and bowling. She also enjoyed camping, fishing, casino trips, and playing golf at Centennial Acres golf course. Virginia was a huge MSU sports fan and a Tigers Fan, when they were winning. She also supported and participated in the Program for Special Skiers. She is survived by special friend, Senga "Penny" Knupp; siblings, Jerry Zimmerman, Diane (Jerry) Peiffer, Linda (Steve) Spedoske, Kathy (Charlie) Schrauben, Donna (Jamie) King and Lois (Doug) Musbach; sisters-in-law, Alice Zimmerman and Diane Zimmerman along with numerous nieces and nephews. Virginia was preceded in death by brothers, Jack and Tom Zimmerman. Memorial contributions may be given to the Williams Syndrome Association or the Program for Special Skiers.

Joseph Michael Brown, sweet baby boy of Brian and Nikki Brown, passed away on August 10, 2019. Joseph received a beautiful private funeral service at St. Patrick Parish on August 16, 2019. He was laid to rest joining his parents' plots in Portland City Cemetery. Joseph is loved and missed by his parents; brothers, Kaeden, Emerson, and Griffin; and his entire family. Though he was with us for such a short amount of time, he left his footprints all over our hearts. He is safe in the arms of Jesus and that brings an immense amount of peace.

Mae Elizabeth (Schrauben) Lehman, age 96, of Portland, passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 8, 2019. Mae was born on April 19, 1923, in Westphalia, the daughter of Frank and Mary (Pline) Fandel. She was a devoted member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Portland, the V.F.W. Post #4090 Ladies Auxiliary. She was a beautician for over 50 years in the Portland area. She is preceded in death by her husband, Edwin Schrauben in 1972 and her second husband, Harold Lehman in 1998; great-granddaughter, Marissa Meyers; brothers, Christie (Helen) Fandel and Hubert Fandel; sisters, Anna Belle (Louis) Werner and Eloise (Jack) Gilbert; and her son-in-law, George McClure. Surviving are her children, Larry (Marlene) Schrauben of DeWitt, Bonnie McClure of Williamston, Fred (Diane) Schrauben of DeWitt, Herb (Eileen) Schrauben of Portland, Jean (Nick) Meyers of Portland, and Jane (Mike) Oehmen of Portland; 17 grandchildren; 35

great-grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Helen Kavanaugh. For those wishing contributions may be made to Country Living A.F.C.-Entertainment Fund, Hospice of Lansing, or the Portland Senior Center in memory of Mae.

William David Pung, of Portland, age 67, passed away September 10, 2019. He was born April 26, 1952, the son of Louis J. and Florence L. (Miller) Pung. Bill was a faithful member of St. Patrick Catholic Church. He enjoyed going out to dinner and watching golf and Lawrence Welk. Most of all, Bill loved spending quality time with his family. Preceding Bill in death are his parents. He is survived siblings, Sr. Mary Pung CSJ, Lawrence (Ann Marie) Pung, Joseph (Jeanette) Pung, Therese Pung, Paul (Linda) Pung, James (friend, Sharon Ward) Pung, and Anthony (Dianne) Pung; and many special nieces and nephews. For those wishing, contributions may be made to the Fr. Flohe Foundation in memory of Bill.

SPOTLIGHT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

pilgrims would greet each other with "Buen Camino." Pilgrims also acquired blessings and tokens at Masses along the way. Many pilgrims carry rocks to the highest point on the Camino and leave their rock near a cross to say, "I can do more. I can suffer by carrying this rock." According to Alaina, people have been making this pilgrimage since as far back as the Medieval period when they were asked to carry stones to build the cathedral.

After her pilgrimage in Spain, Alaina traveled through other parts of Europe including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, England, Ireland, Slovenia, Austria, Germany, Hungary, and Poland, meeting and touring with other travelers from Toronto, Denmark, Vietnam, and Sweden. Her favorite spot was the Bosnian city of Sarajevo, with its rich Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman architecture and descendants. She also appreciated finally reaching London where a bit more English was spoken! And, she discovered that wherever she

traveled in Europe, she was reminded of her pilgrimage by markers, which can be found throughout Europe showing the distance from that point to the Santiago de Compostela.

The travel bug continues to bite Alaina, who has plans for more trips, including a tour around Iceland and Wwoofing, living and working on an organic farm in other parts of the world.

It will, however, be a miracle if she ever travels anywhere that comes close to competing with this journey of faith.

CLASS OF 1969

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

to the attendees. Without a doubt, the most common memory was the time that several of the boys pushed Gary Goodman's car from where he left it near the school down Dilly Hill to the parking lot at the IGA (The IGA was located across from Powers Park, where Hometown Sports is now.). Unfortunately, Sister Joyce learned of the prank and made the boys push the car back up to the school while she sat inside, steering it.

Sister dePorres was remembered as the strictest teacher, and Sister Anthony barely edged out Father Fox as biggest pushover. A peanut butter and jelly sandwich—on homemade bread—was the most common item found in their school lunches 50+ years ago. Many students who lived within walking distance of the school went home for lunch and were treated to hot lunches prepared by their stay-at-home moms. Thursdays were hot lunch days at school and everyone fondly remembered the sloppy joes that were served for lunch.

The classmates had a great time catching up with each other and reminiscing about the "good old days."

LOST SHEEP

It seems like in this day of internet and social media that it should be easier to keep track of all our grads! However, with each mailing we receive a few items back that are undeliverable.

If you know the whereabouts of any of these Lost Sheep, please send us their current address. A current list of Lost Sheep can be found on our school website (portlandstpats.com/school. Click on Other Links, then Alumni).



1956 Duane Irrer	1981 Mike Binder
1959 Joyce (Howe) Davis	1985 Scott Osmar
1961 John D. Pung	1990 John Huhtala
1966 Dan Lehman	1991 Elaine Mauer
1966 Tony Blundy	1993 Darcy (Hinds) Vandecar
1973 Lillian Castranova	1994 Jeremy Pohl
1975 Susan Thelen	1995 Andy Carr
1977 Brian Jenkins	2000 Jeffrey Pung
1977 Bob Rensi	2001 Segrid Johnson
1980 Angie Young	2004 Donald Vollman
1980 Patrick Ellis	2004 Cara Monks

The Shamrock Newsletter

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E-mail: shamrockeditors@gmail.com

Website: portlandstpats.com/school/

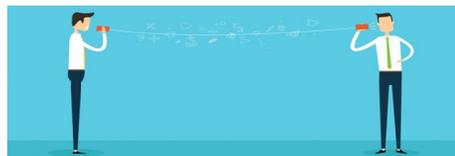
The Shamrock is published two times annually and mailed free of charge to all St. Patrick's alumni, St. Patrick's parishioners, and upon request.

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 Anne Bennett annebennett67@gmail.com
 Anne (Brown) Russman..... 517-647-4094

Upcoming EVENTS

Homecoming	October 5, 2019
Fall Festival	October 13, 2019
Veterans Day Observance.....	November 11, 2019
Catholic Schools Week	Jan 26 - Feb 1, 2020
Senior Appreciation Dinner	April 18, 2020
Shamrock Auction	April 25, 2020
Graduation.....	May 17, 2020
Summer Fest.....	June 26-28, 2020
Class of '70 50-Year Reunion ..	September 12, 2020
Spring issue of The Shamrock.....	Mid April, 2020
Deadline for submitting info.....	March 15, 2020

How to Stay in Touch



It's so easy to stay up-to-date with what's happening at St. Patrick School and Parish. We're working hard to provide access through our websites, social media, and parish app.

School/parish websites: portlandstpats.com
 School Facebook: facebook.com/PortlandStPatrick
 Parish Facebook: facebook.com/St.PatsPortland

To download our parish app, you'll need a smartphone or tablet. Go to www.myparishapp.com. Click on App Store or Google Play. Follow directions to download the app. Search for St. Pat's by zip code (48875). Now, everything you need to know will be at your fingertips!

How to Contact Us

It isn't necessary to use a special form to submit information for the newsletter. Information can be sent by mail, fax, email, or text. It can also be dropped in the collection basket. Please see the box at the left for specific addresses and phone numbers. We prefer that all information be submitted in writing to prevent errors. Be sure to mark it **ATTN: SHAMROCK NEWS.**



This puzzle is a tribute to 1969, when America went from Woodstock to the moon! The summer of '69 was one of the most memorable ever. All of the words in this puzzle are related to events/people from 1969. When you have discovered all of the hidden words, the leftover letters will spell out a quote that is appropriate to that year. Good luck!

D T P H D A M K T A S L O K M R
 N R E R S A E A R M R A C J O A
 N L A L O N O M S I S I T O N G
 E O P F N M S R G N D F O H T U
 K R I E T T P Y Y D A M A N Y S
 E L D T R L N A I E N R G A P R
 D Y A O A N O U R I B U T N Y A
 R N N W U U Q T L T N B I D T G
 O G O F N A D P T S I H A Y H U
 C N E G P O O A M E G E I O O S
 N A N P T J O O R U R L S K N E
 O A A P S F K M A G O Y R O M A
 C H N I B E L L B O T T O M S K
 C I N O X I N K C O T S D O O W
 F A T H E R F O X L O V E B U G
 J P R O T E S T S B O N A N Z A
 N D B I G W H E E L M A N S O N

ENTRY FORM AND RULES

Send this entry form by any of the means described on page 19, or drop in the collection basket in an envelope clearly marked SHAMROCK CONTEST. Entries must be received by November 15, 2018. Cash prize of \$50 will be awarded to the winner who will be chosen by random drawing from all correct entries. You must be 18 or older to enter. Limit of one entry per person.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

ANSWER _____

ABBEY ROAD
 ARMSTRONG
 BELL BOTTOMS
 BIG WHEEL
 BONANZA
 CHAPPAQUIDDICK
 CONCORDE

DRAFT LOTTERY
 FATHER FOX
 FUNNY GIRL
 GRADUATION
 GUNSMOKE
 JANIS JOPLIN
 JOHN AND YOKO

KENNEDY
 LAUGH IN
 LOVE BUG
 MANSON
 MONTY PYTHON
 MOON WALK
 NIXON

PROM PARTIES
 PROTESTS
 SUGAR SUGAR
 TRANS AM
 WOODSTOCK



The puzzle in the spring issue of *The Shamrock* was filled with words about winter. The answer to the puzzle was a wintry quote: *“A cloudy day is no match for a sunny disposition.”* The winner, drawn randomly from all correct entries, was Sean Eddy, who received \$50 for his efforts. Congratulations, Sean. Thank you to everyone who entered the contest.

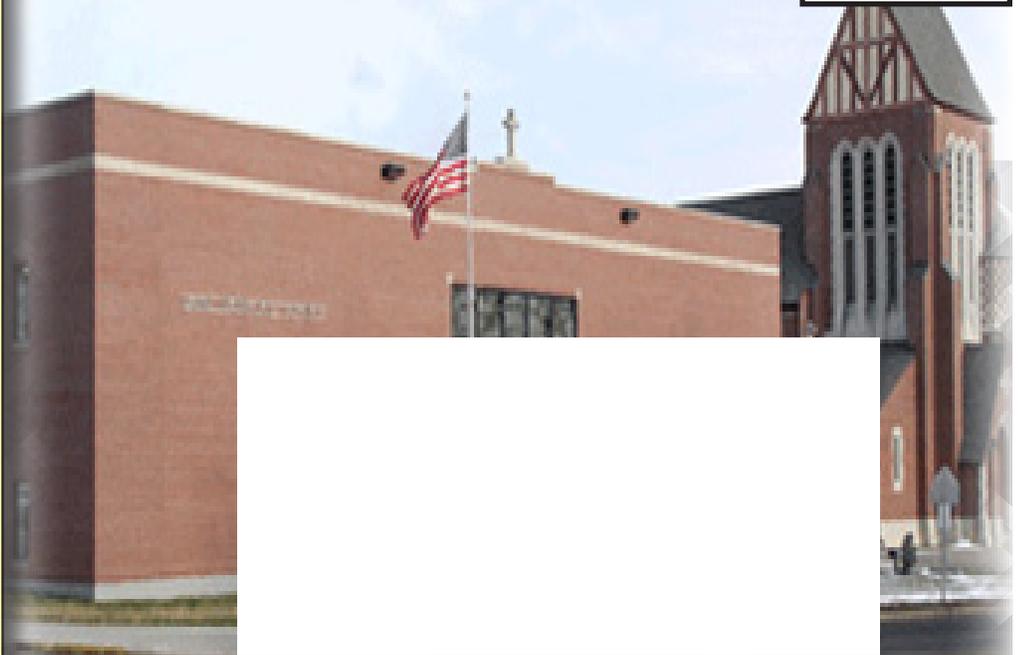
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Portland, MI 48875

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The Shamrock Bunch

(To the tune of The Brady Bunch)

It's the story of a school in Portland
 That is known to be a very special place.
 Where the students, the staff, and the families
 Are seeking Jesus' grace

It's the story of how they work together
 With a spirit of dedication,
 To provide the children at St. Patrick's
 An outstanding education.

And they know they have a good thing going,
 And they know that this is much more than a hunch.
 So they want you all to come and join them
 And become part of the first rate
 Shamrock Bunch.

The Shamrock Bunch!
 The Shamrock Bunch!
 Won't you come and join
 The first rate Shamrock Bunch!

**Call us to learn more about
 St. Patrick School
 We can't wait to meet you!
 (517) 647-7551**