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GOLD & BLUE

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Fall 2016

She's the Boss

Paula Gold-Williams
brings her inclusive style
and decades of experience
to CPS Energy's top job.

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PLAYING WITH FIRE

by Jennifer R. Lloyd

It might look dangerous, but for Sherry Clegg, J.D., hula hooping with the added element of fire is downright relaxing.

Clegg, a Law Success Instructor at the School of Law, said fire hooping helped keep her sane during her own law school experience.

Clegg first witnessed a flaming hula hoop performance at a festival when she was 18. She started hooping more seriously herself after graduating from college and taking a class at a dance studio.

The first time she added a combustible element was during law school in Lubbock, where she found a community of hoopers and other flow artists, which includes jugglers.

“The added element of (or at least the appearance of) danger makes it pretty enticing,” Clegg said. “But once you do it, it’s really meditative. The sound of the fire whooshing around you blocks everything else out. And by focusing solely on the movement, your brain lets go of all other thoughts.” ■





Photo by Josh Huskin

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Photo by Robin Jerstad

Cover photo: Josh Huskin

This page: Students in the Greehey Scholars Program strike a powerful pose in front of Reinbolt Hall during a recent marketing photo shoot.

Measuring the St. Mary's difference



by Thomas M. Mengler, St. Mary's University President

What matters at St. Mary's University?

We strive to offer our students an excellent education that, in most cases, they can complete in four years, with both lower college loan debt and higher earning potential. While students are enrolled at St. Mary's, we seek to help them discover, affirm and cultivate their own unique talents and gifts given by God. We prepare our talented students to enter the world with the skills all employers are seeking and the motivation to make a difference.

These are the goals of St. Mary's University, and they set us apart.

While these are the benchmarks that we have set for ourselves, the reality of higher education today is that many look to outside groups to develop rankings and lists to determine what university is "best." Yet, we know that no single ranking or recognition is proof of being a good fit.

Even so, I take pride and joy in the chorus of accolades that have come our way recently. While each external group measures different

facts and factors, St. Mary's recognitions are stacking up and provide ample support that we are doing something very right.

Most recently, St. Mary's was ranked third in the West region in the Best Value Schools rankings by U.S. News & World Report, using a calculation that takes into account academic quality, the cost of attendance, and the average amount of student scholarship aid.

In the U.S. News Best Colleges ranking, St. Mary's is 21st of 124 universities in the West for academic quality, especially student outcomes. The University has been included in the list of top-tier regional universities for 23 consecutive years.

Not long before that, *Money Magazine* ranked us the best in San Antonio, fourth in Texas and 52nd nationally among 705 colleges and universities in its Best Value Colleges ranking. Last year, the Brookings Institution, a prestigious U.S. think tank, listed St. Mary's as best in San Antonio, tied for first in Texas and 17th in the nation for preparing our graduates for career success. PayScale has repeatedly recognized the University for its graduates' strong salary potential.

While these are some of the honors that we are most proud of, as they speak to academic excellence, affordability, graduation rate and alumni career success, they are just a few in a long list that is getting longer. So many, in fact, that we have set up a page on our website to keep track. If you would like to check out who is talking about us, visit www.stmarytx.edu/about/rankings. We'll keep updating it with the latest news. ■



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CAMPUSNEWS

\$5.3 million grant boosts STEM programs at St. Mary's

St. Mary's University has been awarded more than \$5.3 million to boost the growth of its School of Science, Engineering and Technology.

The University received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education through the Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) STEM Program. The University will use the funding for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education development.

The University will receive \$5,325,975 over five years — \$1,065,195 in Year 1 — for its Excellence in STEM Education project. The grant will assist with a variety of areas, including enhancement of the Forensic Science program, creation of a Bioinformatics program, lab renovations and more.

St. Mary's has seen significant enrollment gains in undergraduate STEM programs since 2010, especially among Hispanic students. This fall, more than 47 percent of St. Mary's freshmen chose a major in the School of Science, Engineering and Technology. At the same time, San Antonio has been on a mission to develop industry in these fields. St. Mary's is advancing its STEM pipeline in order to connect students with growing professional opportunities.

University welcomes new trustees

St. Mary's University welcomed eight new members to the Board of Trustees in June.

The new members, who are largely St. Mary's alumni, are the Rev. Dennis Arechiga, pastor of St. Matthew Parish in San Antonio; Charles Barrett Jr. (B.B.A. '62), President and CEO of Barrett Holdings Inc.; David S. Herrmann (B.B.A. '88, J.D. '90), CEO of Columbia Realty Limited; Joan M. Lamm-Tennant, Ph.D. (B.B.A. '74, M.B.A. '77), CEO of Blue Marble Microinsurance, Inc.; John M. Vaught (J.D. '78), partner at Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell, LLP; Sylvia Fernandez Villarreal, M.D. (B.A. '72), owner and CEO of Taos Clinic for Children and Youth; Steve A. Chiscano (J.D. '97), partner at Gonzalez Chiscano Angulo & Kasson, PC and the Law Alumni Association representative; and Jason F. Longoria (B.A. '00), senior marketing manager at AT&T Inc. and the University Alumni Association representative.

History students produce documentaries on World War I

Teresa Van Hoy, Ph.D., Professor of History, and her Public History students have produced a series of documentaries on World War I that are reaching large audiences.



Engineering Management major Jose Molina (left) and Juan Ocampo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, work on an instrument called the metallurgical polisher, which prepares metals for microscopic examination. They are working in the recently renovated Mechanical Engineering Lab in Garni Hall.

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY



MISSION

St. Mary's University, as a Catholic Marianist University, fosters the formation of people in faith and educates leaders for the common good through community, integrated liberal arts and professional education, and academic excellence.



Running for the neighborhood

St. Mary's University hosted the third annual StMU 5K for the Neighborhood in October, where more than 600 runners and walkers got an early morning start for the event benefiting the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

The 5K is part of the University's ongoing efforts to enhance quality of life through revitalization of the neighborhoods surrounding the campus. St. Mary's strives to be a vital partner in promoting health and wellness, education and safety of the Gateway District community. The event's lead sponsor was Ryan Companies US Inc.

With the support of retired Maj. Gen. Alfred Valenzuela (B.A. '70, M.A. '79), Van Hoy and her students completed undergraduate research and documentaries. Valenzuela's colleagues on President Barack Obama's World War I Centennial Commission awarded their official endorsement to the student-produced films, which now bear the commission's logo.

Texas' arm of the Commission has included links to the student films on its website, www.texasworldwar1centennial.org.

Las Americas Letters celebrates 15th anniversary

This year marked the 15th anniversary of Las Americas Letters Series in Literature and Art, which brings authors, artists, scholars and performers to St. Mary's University and the San Antonio community. Its mission is to encourage empowerment through creativity and cultural understanding by bridging the Americas through the work of authors, artists, painters, musicians, scholars and educators.

St. Mary's celebrated the power to convey great meaning in a small form with this year's theme, "Unfolding Symbol Through Time: The Power of Symbol in Literature and Art."

Guest speakers were Rosemary Catacalos, Texas Poet Laureate; Gerry Frost, artist; and Bryce Milligan, publisher. Each explored the evocative topic of symbols and how they work within our culture to move, shape and inspire us.

Business Week features San Antonio mayor

Ivy R. Taylor, mayor of San Antonio, was the La Quinta Keynote Lecture speaker at the 2016 Business Week in early November.

Business Week, hosted each fall by the Greehey School of Business, is a forum for students to connect with the real world and learn from top business and civic leaders. The three-day event includes speed networking, a job fair (Meet-the-Firms), and lectures and workshops on current topics from top business leaders.

Other speakers included Paula Gold-Williams (B.B.A. '84), president and CEO of CPS Energy; Jacqueline E. Brevard, senior advisor at GEC Risk Advisory LLC; John Hornsby, director of employee connections at Zachry Group; and Lynda Ellis (B.S. '81), owner, president and CEO of Capital Concierge.

St. Mary's Law unveils portrait of Chief Judge Emeritus David Ezra

The St. Mary's University School of Law honored the success and contributions of Chief Judge Emeritus David Alan Ezra (B.B.A. '69, J.D. '72) with a portrait unveiling this month in the Sarita Kenedy East Law Library's Law Alumni Room.

Ezra is the former chief judge of the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii, and is a longtime member of the Judicial Conference of the United States. He is the youngest federal judge appointed in Hawaii and has been designated by the chief justice of the United States for special permanent assignment to the Western District of Texas to assist with the high caseload.

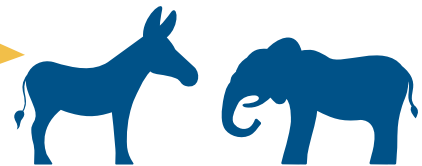
Among many notable achievements, Ezra was awarded the St. Mary's University School of Law Rosewood Gavel Award in 2007 and the St. Mary's University School of Law Lifetime Achievement Award in 2013. Ezra also teaches, participates in and frequently serves the students and faculty of St. Mary's as an adviser and judge at moot court competitions and other programs.

Meet the CLASS OF 2020

As St. Mary's University welcomed almost 600 students this fall to the Class of 2020, we thought our readers would enjoy learning a bit about these newest Rattlers and gaining insight into what shapes their worldviews.

For the Class of 2020, many of whom were born in 1998, they have:

- Never known an election in which a Bush or Clinton was not running for the highest office in the land



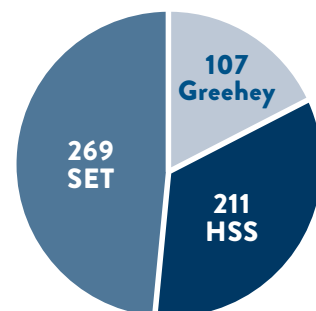
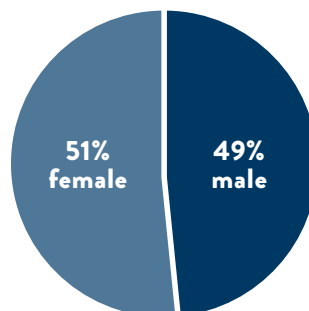
- Always been able to purchase airline tickets online
- Never had to watch or listen to programs at a scheduled time — thanks, TiVo
- Never been alive at the same time as Frank Sinatra, Phil Hartman or Sonny Bono
- Always seen Serena Williams win Grand Slam singles titles but have never seen John Elway or Wayne Gretzky compete

- Always (mistakenly) disagreed with their parents as to which Star Wars episode was the “first” installment. The correct answer remains Episode IV.

- Always had the ability to share text messages with their friends, family and future employers
- Always been able to sell and purchase items on eBay



Our new Rattlers represent 16 countries and 17 states.



Peer Court takes shape at the School of Law

St. Mary's Law began piloting a Peer Court program this fall to divert local high school students away from the criminal justice system.

The program is a partnership between the law school, the San Antonio Municipal Court and Lanier High School in the San Antonio Independent School District, said Gregory Zlotnick, J.D., staff attorney and supervisor of the Pro Bono Program housed in the law school's Center for Legal and Social Justice.

Students who commit minor infractions,

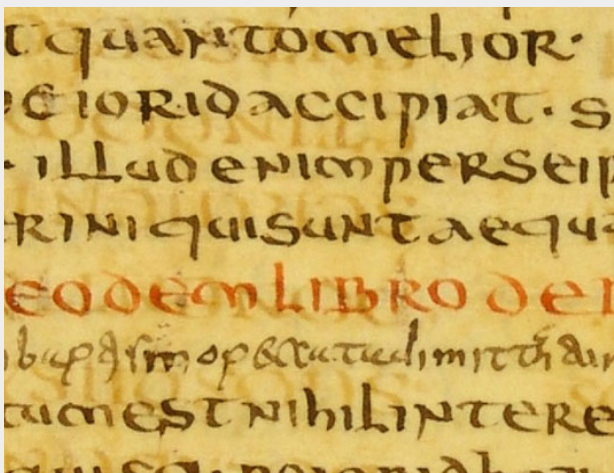
such as truancy, can agree to attend Peer Court, said Zlotnick, who is overseeing the University's contributions to the program. Those who choose the Peer Court option — which includes admitting wrongdoing, participating in a proceeding and completing the sentence handed down — will have no formal case filed through the juvenile justice system.

At Peer Court, the student charged with an infraction is represented by a fellow high school student and appears in front of a jury of his or her peers. This peer jury determines the consequences based on the Peer Court

proceedings. In addition to truancy, other types of misconduct under consideration for Peer Court include curfew violations, disorderly conduct and disrupting class.

"This program is a chance for the high school students to take ownership of the application of justice and fairness," he said.

The Peer Court is hosted at St. Mary's Law, and its law students serve as advisers to the Lanier student attorneys. While Peer Court is currently a pilot program, Zlotnick said he has already seen interest in expanding it to additional schools.



Images from the Palimpsest Project

St. Mary's professor continues work to reveal ancient writings

St. Mary's University recently was awarded a \$325,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to fund the work of Todd Hanneken, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Theology, revealing hidden words within centuries-old biblical literature.

It's called the Jubilees Palimpsest Project (which was featured in the summer 2014 issue of *Gold & Blue*).

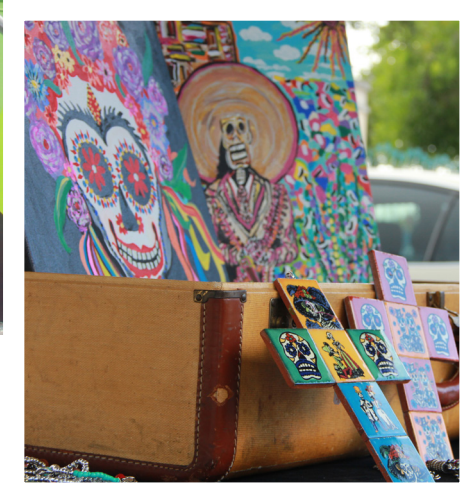
Hanneken is the first scholar to use Spectral RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) to excavate text from ancient books and manuscripts. These artifacts, called palimpsests, haven't been legible for centuries because they were erased.

Long ago, paper was difficult to come by, so writing often was erased from valuable parchment so it could be reused. For example, the Book of Jubilees was written in Hebrew in the 150s B.C. and was authoritative among the Dead Sea Scrolls, but it was cast aside by Judaism and Christianity, Hanneken said.

"This grant will expand opportunities for our students to work at the forefront of innovations in the study of ancient Judaism and Christianity," Hanneken said. "I fully expect this grant project, and other projects using the technology we are developing, will lead to deeper understanding of the historical foundations of Christianity."

Hanneken invented the technology at St. Mary's in 2012 and now coordinates a team of 21 archaeologists, theology scholars and imaging experts from institutions around the U.S. Student researchers from St. Mary's assist with the project, which is also sponsored by the Edward and Linda Speed Endowment for Faculty Development and Research.

Learn more about Hanneken's innovative work at <http://palimpsest.stmarytx.edu>.



Mobile Mercado rolls onto St. Mary's campus

The San Antonio Food Bank's new Mobile Mercado bus in October became the newest addition to the monthly farmers' market held on campus.

The St. Mary's University Sustainability Committee has been organizing the farmers' markets for the University and surrounding communities, providing access to fresh fruits, vegetables and crafts. The Mobile Mercado bus offers a variety of canned, boxed and frozen foods.

The Mobile Mercado "is an important part of how St. Mary's University is working with the San Antonio Food Bank to help alleviate food insecurity in our area," said Evelyn Mitchell, Ph.D., the University's Sustainability Committee chair and Associate Professor of Environmental Science. It also represents the University's commitment to working for the greater good.

"As Pope Francis has shown us through *Laudato Si'* (his second encyclical), working to help those of lower economic status is the best path forward to a sustainable world," Mitchell said.

The Sustainability Committee hopes to bring the Mobile Mercado back to campus in future months, while the farmers' market will be held the first Friday of each month.



2016 Athletics Hall of Fame class inducted

St. Mary's University introduced five new athletes at the 26th Hall of Fame ceremony this fall.

The inductees were Oracio J. "O.J." Garza (Baseball, B.A. '01); Kathren McCarty, D.P.M. (Volleyball, B.A. '97); Fernando N. Tarefa (Baseball, B.A. '05); Roni (Garcia) Holmes (Softball, B.A. '05), who could not attend so her brother Matt Garcia accepted on her behalf; and Billy Dell White Jr. (Basketball, B.A. '05).



Women's Tennis shines at national championships

Women's Tennis sophomore Ally Maciel secured the program's highest-ever individual national finish, taking fourth place in the singles draw at the ITA Oracle Cup.

To advance to nationals, Maciel claimed the ITA Regional championship along with the Rattlers' doubles tandem of Hannah Petersen and Tyra Timm, who finished sixth at the national championships.

Women's Soccer earns national academic award

For the second straight year, St. Mary's Women's Soccer brought home the College Team Academic Award from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

The award, which honored the 2015-2016 team, marked the third time in four years that head coach Corwyn Ritch's squad received the honor. It is awarded to programs that maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 for the entire academic year.

Men's, Women's Golf teams start off strong

Golfer Ben Arnett has helped St. Mary's Men's Golf to a hot start this school year, as the junior posted two tournament victories at the Newman Fall Invitational and MSU Invitational for the first wins of his Rattler career. The efforts have helped the Rattlers win one team title and earn four top-four finishes this fall.

Women's Golf has also won a tournament, finishing first at the West Texas A&M Lady Buff Stampede, where they were led by second-place finishes from Kelly Contreras and Paige Weiss.

1. Women's Soccer players Katy Primeaux (10), Alexia Maldonado (6) and Riley Wincheski (8) celebrate a goal. 2. Men's Golfer Ben Arnett tees off to launch a drive down the fairway. 3. Women's Tennis player Ally Maciel returns a hard-hit serve.





Photo by Bill Sallans

NOT ALONE

Stepping Up for Justice

Alumnus Louis Cousins Sr. saved lives in Vietnam and managed labs for Methodist Hospital in San Antonio, but as a sophomore in a Virginia high school, he became something he never imagined — a civil rights hero.

By Alex Z. Salinas (B.A. '11)

It was a cool February morning in Norfolk, Virginia, in 1959 when 15-year-old Louis Cousins Sr. (B.A. '90) and his mother climbed the steps to the entrance of Maury High School.

Their walk leading up to the school was “like a gauntlet,” Cousins said, with reporters, photographers, bystanders, students and parents lined up to watch history about to be made.

Cousins was about to become the school’s first black student.

Five years prior, the United States Supreme Court had ruled in the landmark case *Brown v. Board of Education* that the segregation of public schools for black and white children was unconstitutional. Virginia had opposed public school desegregation in a popular movement known as the Massive Resistance, which shut down public schools rather than allowing desegregation, leaving about

10,000 students in Norfolk out of school — the largest number of any school system in Virginia.

It wasn’t until Virginia Gov. J. Lindsay Almond took office in 1958 that Virginia reluctantly allowed public schools in Arlington and Norfolk to desegregate peacefully. Still, some schools opted to remain closed in resistance to desegregation orders, but as the national spotlight turned on Virginia, they began to open slowly but surely — though not without more resistance, Cousins remembered.

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Cousins sits alone in the front of the Maury High School auditorium waiting to be assigned a homeroom in 1959. At age 15, Cousins was the school’s first black student.





Cousins and his mother walk up the steps of Maury High School.



Cousins looks at lunch options in the cafeteria. “They were proud of me being the only one there,” he said about the cafeteria workers, who were the only other black people in the school at the time.

“The state came up with these psychological and written tests for black students to see if they qualified for ‘white’ schools,” Cousins said. “The pool started at 256 students, and then dropped to 61, 21 and finally 17.”

The 17 students, including Cousins — widely known as the Norfolk 17 — were assigned among seven schools. However, Cousins was the only one sent to Maury High School, which had more than 2,000 students.

Before setting foot inside Maury, Cousins was briefly part of a makeshift school in the basement of the historic First Baptist Church in Norfolk, where he was prepared by teachers to expect the worst and act accordingly: Don’t react to name calling, sit near the door in case of a need to escape, and sit in the front of class so that there will be witnesses in case anything happens.

Cousins took the advice to heart; he sat in the front of Maury auditorium as he waited to be assigned to a homeroom. A photographer

captured this moment of young Cousins sitting alone with an almost calm expression on his bespectacled face — a photo that would be featured in newspapers and magazines around the world.

At 15 years old, Cousins became a national celebrity — one of the faces of desegregation.

“I was afraid to a certain point, but I was there for a purpose: to get my education,” Cousins said. “I’m the type of person who if you tell me I can’t do something, I’m going to do it. So there was

no backing down with me.”

While at Maury, Cousins endured nearly every conceivable form of prejudice.

“Very few students talked to me because they didn’t want to be ostracized,” Cousins said. “They’d call me names and bump into me in the halls. There were police guards in the hallways, but they didn’t see everything. Teachers didn’t want me in their classrooms, and I learned to hold my natural bodily functions so I wouldn’t get trapped and beat up in the restroom.”

Only once did Cousins lose his cool, when a student spit on him; he chased the student into the principal’s office, where the student was expelled and Cousins was given an apology.

“It was an eye-opening experience,” he said. “I never expected to go through the type of humiliation I went through, but it taught me a valuable lesson: to do whatever it takes to get an education.”

In school, Cousins virtually had no other shoulders to lean on. However, he fondly remembers the cafeteria workers — the only other black people in the building — who would serve him a little extra food and words of encouragement to make it through the day.

“They were proud of me being the only one there,” he said, “and it was an extra incentive to succeed.”

In 1962, Cousins graduated from high school. He applied to the Norfolk division of the College of William & Mary (now Old Dominion University), but was not accepted because they weren’t accepting black students. He attended Norfolk State University for a year before enlisting in the Air Force. The decision to join the military was simple; he couldn’t afford college, and he needed money.

Though not like his high school years, Cousins did experience racism in the military. The first city he went to for military training, Greenville, Mississippi, was segregated. During another stop in Montgomery, Alabama, Cousins and other black airmen had to take separate taxi cabs from the white airmen to get to base.

“I was afraid to a certain point, but I was there for a purpose: to get my education.”



Cousins stands in the hallway with classmates — many of whom ignored him.



Cousins poses with a military friend in Vietnam in 1968. He spent a year there as an Air Force combat medic.

Any leisure trips he took off base required traveling in groups for safety.

“Ultimately, there’s a brotherhood in the military that goes beyond color,” he said.

In 1968, Cousins was shipped off to Vietnam as a combat medic, where he served one horrifying year.

“I saw and experienced things there that most people wouldn’t believe,” he said.

Cousins frequently flew in helicopters with the Army’s storied 101st Airborne Division to Special Forces camps to conduct medical assistant examinations amid enemy territory. While there to care for the wounded — many shrapnel victims whose limbs were blown off — Cousins also learned to use mortars and .30- and .50-caliber weapons in case of attack.

Equipped with a medical bag and a weapon, Cousins also carried a Yashica camera, shouldering the responsibility of photographer and documenting his travels throughout Vietnam.

“When you’re in the jungle living like an animal, your mind and senses are sharp,” he said, “and then when you go home, you’re not the same. They didn’t call it PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) back then, and there were no adjustment programs. A lot of us came back messed up. It took me six to eight months to act halfway normal.”

When the chaos subsided, he played chess and tennis to occupy his mind.

After departing Vietnam in 1969, Cousins transitioned from a military medic to lab technician. He and his wife, Deloris, whom he had met in junior high in Norfolk, eventually found their way to San Antonio. By the time he retired from the Air Force in 1984, Cousins had been doing part-time lab work for four years at Methodist Hospital. He then was hired full time and managed their labs until 2008, when he retired.

Cousins attended numerous universities while assigned to various military bases, but upon leaving the Air Force, he wanted to finish what he had started many years prior: obtaining a college education.

He learned that St. Mary’s University would accept his military training for course credit, so he enrolled and, after 18 months, earned a medical technician degree in 1990.

“We (the former military students) killed it in the classrooms,” Cousins said with a smile. “Being a corpsman helped. I knew the body, so it was about learning more in-depth knowledge.”

Cousins said he practically lived in Garni Science Hall on campus and delighted in taking a chemistry class under the late Brother Charles Cummiskey, S.M.

“He would make us recite these crazy sayings, but they helped us remember the formulas,” Cousins said. “He was a character and a great man, sharp as a whistle.”

While Cousins has enjoyed retirement for nearly a decade — taking pictures of the city with his wife and spending time with his son, Louis Jr. — he has continued to crusade for equality most of his life by telling his story, which he said is largely unknown in the southwestern United States. He has spoken countless times at universities, churches and conferences throughout the years, and remains in touch with the surviving 11 members of the Norfolk 17.

Cousins said he would like to write a book on his experiences, but isn’t sure when the project will materialize.

His message to those facing oppression today is simple: “Don’t give up.”

“Find a way to rise above, around or underneath obstacles,” he said. “There’s still a lot of hatred in the world today. Eliminate the negative people around you, and find a way to work within the system to make positive changes.” ■



ABOUT PAULA GOLD-WILLIAMS

In addition to her Associate of Fine Arts from San Antonio College and Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from St. Mary's University, Gold-Williams has a Master of Business Administration. She is also a Certified Public Accountant and Chartered Global Management Accountant.

Gold-Williams is chair of the Advisory Committee of Executives for the Greehey School of Business and continues to give back to the St. Mary's community. She serves on numerous boards, including public television station KLRN's board of directors. She is an advisory trustee for Southwest Research Institute and FM Global, and is a member to the San Antonio Medical Foundation.

IDEAS & OPPORTUNITIES



by Jasmine DeLeon (B.A. '11, M.A. '15)

Paula Gold-Williams believes in being ready to take on whatever challenges life throws her way. She has guided her career with a balance of careful preparation and a willingness to take chances, and earlier this year, it really paid off.

Gold-Williams (B.B.A. '84) took over as interim CEO when her boss left CPS Energy in fall 2015. In July 2016, she was named the permanent president and CEO for what is the largest publicly owned gas and electric utility company in the United States.

As head of one of the largest utilities companies in the nation, she oversees almost \$11 billion in assets, \$2.5 billion in annual revenue and about 3,000 employees. To say it's a big job is an understatement.

"I don't run CPS Energy," Gold-Williams said. "It's the 3,000 employees who provide service every day. My job is to support them. CEOs have to be cognitive that we are not the core. The core is every single person doing their job.

"If you keep 3,000 people focused, you will be successful."

A native of San Antonio, Gold-Williams graduated from St. Mary's

University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting. She started off as an auditor, but quickly learned that she was the kind of businesswoman who wanted to help figure out new strategies and how to move forward.

"I realized I didn't like coming in at the end of the year," she said. "I wanted to be there at the beginning, so I jumped out of the auditing world."

From there, she went into accounting, where her résumé included a who's who of San Antonio companies: Time Warner Cable, Luby's (now headquartered in Houston) and finally CPS Energy, to name a few. Working in a variety of industries has helped Gold-Williams understand how different kinds of businesses work and how she can contribute to them.

"I've audited banks. I've worked for restaurant companies, computer companies, a lot of regulation of communication companies, and the common thread still is: How does that company add value and sell something of value to customers?"

Each of Gold-Williams' previous roles played a vital part in her journey to the top. With a desire to continually learn, every job role, every project opportunity and every risk led her to the leadership role she holds today.

"NOT BEING PERFECT GIVES YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THAT JOB YOUR OWN. DON'T LET PERFECTION PREVENT YOU FROM TAKING ON AN OPPORTUNITY."

"Your roles are as exciting as you make them. When you have a suggestion and you think you can make a system better or you can train a group of people or create a new structure that makes you more efficient, those ideas lead to new opportunities in your career," she said. "You won't have it all figured out the first day you get there, but you will be able to grow constantly by coming to work today — every day — with your head in the game."

As a woman running a large company very much in the public eye — and a minority woman, at that — Gold-Williams is aware that she is a role model for other women and girls. However, when she first entered the business world, there were few women in public accounting for her to look to as examples.

"It's not that they were never there; it's just that they weren't there in great numbers," she said. "They weren't CEOs of companies, and they weren't partners. I have actually watched that change."

To her, the business world is still challenging for women, but nothing that can't be overcome.

"I think (it requires) learning how to be successful, learning from your mistakes and not thinking that you have to be perfect, but letting yourself be creative enough and able to take on risks," she said.

The St. Mary's alumna found that risk-taking is what makes the difference: "Take calculated risks, think through problems, think about the 'what-ifs' — whether you are a man or a woman."

However, Gold-Williams encourages women in particular to take calculated risks.

"Women want to be more sure of their decisions and (it's) more challenging to take on risks," she said. "When that job description comes out, women may want to be a perfect fit. And I tell them, you have to be a good fit, but you don't have to be a perfect fit. Not being perfect gives you the opportunity to make that job your own. Don't let perfection prevent you from taking on an opportunity."

If there is anything Gold-Williams has learned, it's to never turn down an opportunity. In her 12 years at CPS Energy, she worked her way up by saying "yes" to the opportunities presented to her.

"My philosophy is: Just keep learning," she said. ■

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BREAKFAST • WITH A *Saint*

by Jennifer R. Lloyd

A brief stop in Calcutta, India, while serving Marianist communities in the region in 1997 gave the Rev. Jim Tobin, S.M., now the Greehey School of Business chaplain, the chance to experience the holiness of Mother Teresa in person — a memory he cherished as she was canonized Sept. 4.

“She was totally committed to Jesus, to serve him in the poorest of the poor,” said Tobin, who was serving as chaplain for the Marianist brothers in Bangalore but stopped in Calcutta en route to a retreat for Marianist novices in Ranchi. “It was really clear, visible grace to see how God works through a healing being to bring his love into the world.”

Tobin reached Calcutta in time for the Mass on the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and recalled entering the chapel at Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity. The chapel was packed with nuns and Mother Teresa sat in a wheelchair in the rear of the space, just one among many sisters, said Tobin, who noted her humility and simplicity.

“I was privileged to give her Holy Communion,” Tobin said. “The awareness that she was receiving the Body of Christ, that’s the moment I will never forget, giving Mother Teresa the Eucharist, administering the Body of Christ to a saint.”

As she received Holy Communion, Tobin recalled, “peace just seemed to radiate from her face.”

“She was a very holy woman,” Tobin said. “I wish I could have her holiness.”

After Mass, Tobin and two other Marianists were invited to breakfast with Mother Teresa in her dining room.

“She offered me a fried egg, a cup of tea and a piece of bread” and they had a delightful conversation, Tobin said.

Tobin asked her to pray for his parish in St. Louis, and she agreed.

Tobin has traveled to India four times in all, as recently as this year with a group of St. Mary’s University undergraduates pursuing an alternative spring break program. The group stayed with the Marianists in Bangalore and taught business development skills to high-school dropouts from the slums.

During those trips and through his work of ministering to business students, Tobin embraces the lessons learned from his brief visit with the Saint.

One lesson was the contemplative mode of being that Mother Teresa exhibited in his presence despite the frenetic surroundings. He continually channels that energy to refocus on what is truly important.

From their meeting, he felt “a challenge to be like her, a challenge to be a man of prayer, a challenge to bring Jesus to others through Mary as a Marianist,” Tobin said. “I can’t afford to forget that takeaway.” ■



Photo by Josh Huskin

AM WRAPPED IN OME TACOS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

by Robin J. Johnson (B.A. '11, M.A. '13)

Taco 'bout a delicious hobby.

Eddie Vega, a self-proclaimed taco aficionado, is often on the hunt for Texas' best tacos. When he's not doing that, Vega can be found performing poetry at open mic nights around San Antonio.

Vega (B.A. '99) has been a published and performing poet since 2010. His poems about tacos and his taco blog — *We Taco Bout It* — have earned him enough local recognition that he was selected to serve on the Texas Taco Council as one of two taco ambassadors for the San Antonio area.

The Texas Taco Council is made up of Vega and 19 other Taco Ambassadors representing 10 Texas cities, who were selected by a group of taco journalists for their taco knowledge. The small group of journalists formed the council to create their book, *The Tacos of Texas*, which relied on the Taco Ambassadors' top taco picks and taco culture in their respective cities to produce a comprehensive guidebook to the best tacos in Texas.

But Vega isn't all tortillas and fillings.

His poetry also focuses on his passion for social justice and Tejano

culture, which helped the San Antonio Puro Slam regional team win third place at a competition in Denver last year.

The topic of social justice in his poetry is inspired by the teachings from his Theology degree and his St. Mary's service immersion trip to Mexico, which led him to live with Marianists in Veracruz for 10 months after graduation.

"When I got back," Vega said, "I started working in social justice circles and nonprofits and ended up teaching."

Vega teaches theology "from a social justice perspective" at Incarnate Word High School, while also working at Gemini Ink as a writer-in-community and as a mentor for aspiring writers in the community.

In 2013, Vega was a mentee for Gemini Ink under former Texas Poet Laureate Carmen Tafolla.

Vega performs slam poetry regularly in San Antonio, hosts open mic nights and the St. Mary's Young Alumni Trivia Night, as well as contributes to his blog, which he writes with fellow St. Mary's alumnus Teno Villarreal (B.A. '01). ■

Saving FAMILIES

Law alums use unique method to ease the destructive nature of divorce

by Jennifer R. Lloyd

In a perfect world, the services of John and Laura Roach would not be needed.

But as a district court judge and a family law attorney, respectively, they know that's far from reality. So, they have made it their mission to help divorcing couples keep the process amicable — and keep the family as intact as possible — while trying to save the marriages that can be rescued.

Mediation is the key, said the Hon. John Roach Jr. (J.D. '97) of the 296th Judicial District Court in McKinney and his wife, Laura Roach (J.D. '96), a partner with the firm Albin Roach PLLC in Frisco.

Over the years, Laura said they have seen their clients head into court and “they're so distraught. They're thinking the worst, and they don't know how to get their problems solved.”

By seeking solutions through mediation, which requires communication, they can sometimes solve problems in a day that accumulated over the course of an entire marriage, Laura said.

The couple recently published a book, *Divorce in Peace: Alternatives to War from a Judge and Lawyer*, and launched a website, divorceinpeace.com, which connects clients with other professionals, including other attorneys and a child counselor, who are as committed to this gentler approach to divorce as the Roaches.

John recalled coming home from work over the years and talking about the ill effects of divorce they witnessed in the court system.

“Going to court is like going to Vegas: You never know what you're going to get based on the judge,” said John, who witnessed a variety of negative repercussions for his clients, including

“the contentiousness, the destruction of the emotional health of the kids, the destruction of the personal wealth of the family. They're walking out of here at the end of the day destroyed across the board.”

The couple decided they wanted to make a difference on a macro level and, in 2008, began drafting a book focusing on divorce law in Texas. Their aims expanded last year after Laura mediated a divorce case for a Major League Baseball player.

The player had spent more than \$1 million in legal fees in the four months prior to Laura's mediation. She said she was able to settle the entire case in a matter of days and the player's agent took note. The agent wanted to let all her players know about this approach and urged the couple to aim for a national audience with their book.

During the process of writing the book, Laura decided that they needed to go one step further beyond informing readers — they needed to connect them with the right professional help through fellow experts who have pledged to put their client's interests ahead of their own.

This network currently focuses on the North Dallas area and includes about 50 professionals, Laura said. But she plans to expand the effort into other areas and augment the network with more experts in other fields, such as financial planners and real estate agents, “anybody who can help.”

John said he feels the work that the couple does has helped keep them together.

“When a couple is going through their issues, they don't talk about it and so they don't see the opportunity to compare themselves with other husbands and other wives. I've been able to compare

our relationship with 10,000 other couples,” said John, who values being able to see the big picture.

The couple met when they were both in law school at St. Mary's University. After law school, John moved to Plano to open up his own civil law practice but said the phone kept ringing with family law cases.

“The personal nature of family law really got to me, and I believe in being an advocate not only for the client, but for their children,” said John, who was elected to his judicial position in 2006.

In the meantime, Laura interned and later worked as a prosecutor with the Bexar County Criminal District Attorney's Office. Eventually, Laura left the DA's office and joined John's firm, now called Albin Roach PLLC, where she still practices. She estimates that 90 percent of her time now is committed to mediation.

“You can't take the emotions out of divorce. You can minimize the emotions and the cost of the divorce,” John said. “It's never going to be easy, but it can be easier.”

When couples do part ways, Laura said having a mediated agreement reduces the odds that they'll head back to court, since they were involved in the outcome rather than receiving a judge's verdict.

And once in a while Laura's mediation will avert a divorce entirely. When she puts together a mediation proposal, she said Plan A is a reconciliation agreement and Plan B is an agreement on divorce.

“People can save their marriages if they both want to and if they put the work into it,” Laura said. “It's rare, but it does happen. It's like the best day ever. That's the best part of mediating, when I can get people back together.” ■



Photo by Terri Glander

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CLASSNOTES *alumni news*

1957

Randolph Slaughter, B.B.A., Laredo, retired several years ago as senior vice president of Dr Pepper/Seven Up FNC in Dallas. Today, he serves on the board of the Dr Pepper Free Enterprise Institute and the Dr Pepper Museum in Waco. He spends his time managing a family ranch and commercial real estate in the Laredo area, which includes selling the family homestead to the city, which is now an inner-city park, the Slaughter Park Sports Complex.

1960

E.B. Duarte, B.A., Alexandria, Virginia, has retired from the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) after more than 42 years of working for the federal government. He also served in management and supervising positions for a White House Cabinet Committee for the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Among his many awards is a special recognition from the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security for developing security documents for the department and the USCIS.

Frank R. Southers, B.A./J.D., Austin, an attorney and an adjunct professor at St. Mary's University School of Law, has had his book, *Senator White: A Novel*, published.

1965

Robert C. "Bob" Letsch, B.A., Racine, Wisconsin, a legendary coach in the state, has retired after more than 50 years of coaching at St. Catherine's High School, from which he graduated before attending St. Mary's University in 1961. He coached basketball from 1979 to 2016, going 661-250 as head coach. His basketball teams won eight state championships between 1985 and 2010. He coached football and baseball at "St. Cat's," as well, and his baseball teams captured six titles between 1971 and 1989. His overall win-loss record in varsity sports is 887-346 for a winning percentage of .719. Letsch retired as the second-winningest high school basketball coach in Wisconsin's history. While a student at St. Mary's, he played both basketball and baseball.

1967

Leland Blank, B.S., Austin, has been promoted to the Provost and Chief Academic Officer at American University of Sarjah in the United Arab Emirates.

1969

William P. Cunningham, B.A., M.A. '77, San Antonio, was elected Secondary Teacher of the Year for the Northeast Independent School District. He was also appointed to a Texas Education Agency Chemistry Task Force.

Beverly Lindsay, Ph.D., B.A., State College, Pennsylvania, has retired as Professor Emerita from Penn State University. She is currently a senior professional researcher and principal investigator of Women and University Leadership in Post Conflict and Transitional Societies at multiple University of California campuses.

1970

Thomas M. O'Brien, B.A., J.D. '73, San Antonio, has joined Alford & O'Brien as Of Counsel, where he will practice primarily in the areas of wills and estates, health law, real estate and general business law.

1971

Alfredo E. Cardenas, B.A., Corpus Christi, has had his book, *Balo's War: A Historical Novel About the Plan of San Diego*, published. The novel covers a plan that has received little attention in Texas history books but had a significant effect across the state. Early in the 20th century, The Plan of San Diego called for taking five southwestern states from the U.S. and forming a new nation. Cardenas' novel takes a fresh look at the document that played an important role in this violent time in Texas.

1972

Jose "J.F." Cantu, B.A., Stockton, California, retired from a career with the United States Postal Service, is a member of the Heritage Writers Community of San Joaquin Country and an author who has released his third book, *The Legacy: A Heritage of Hate*, published by Brighton Publishing, Mesa, Arizona.

1974

Norma (Travieso) Medina, B.A., Colleyville, has been named the 2015 Top Long Term Care Insurance Sales Pro in Texas and the Long Term Care Sales Achievement Top Producer Award for the American Association for Long Term Care Insurance.

1976

Peter Vogel, J.D., Dallas, whose area of practice is intellectual property litigation at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, has been named to the 2016 Texas and Colorado Super Lawyers lists.

1978

David A. Baram, J.D., Bloomfield, Connecticut, a Connecticut State Representative serving Bloomfield and Windsor, is house chairman of the Legislature's General Law Committee.

1979

Joyce Mazero, J.D., Dallas, whose area of practice is franchise/dealership at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, has been named to the 2016 Texas and Colorado Super Lawyers lists.

1982

Patrick McDonnell, B.B.A., St. Louis, has earned a Master of Arts in Spanish and is teaching Spanish at Bayless Senior High School in St. Louis.

1985

Kevin Kelley, J.D., Dallas, whose area of practice is real estate at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, has been named to the 2016 Texas and Colorado Super Lawyers lists.

1986

John Allen, B.A., High Ridge, Missouri, has been certified as a clinical pastoral education supervisor by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education and runs the CPE program at Christian Hospital in St. Louis. He is also certified as a board certified chaplain by the Association of Professional Chaplains.

1987

Greg Perkes, J.D., Corpus Christi, justice on the 13th Court of Appeals, received a Certificate of Completion from the National Judicial College for its Advanced Skills for Appellate Judges course. In addition, Perkes was honored with the Cameron County Bar Association's 2016 Outstanding Service Award.

Andy Taylor, J.D., Houston, is opening a law practice with George Hittner. The firm is based in Texas, and its focus will be on cases that involve the intersection of business, public policy and law.

1990

Katherine Minter Cary, J.D., Austin, has been promoted to chief of staff by Attorney General Ken Paxton, becoming the first woman to ever hold the chief of staff position. She was previously deputy attorney general for administration.

1991

Sean Flynn, B.B.A., Miami, has been named CEO of the Miami FC, a professional soccer team. He was previously senior vice president of marketing and event booking with the Miami Marlins.

Stephen S. Hennigan, B.B.A., San Antonio, has assumed the title of president and will continue as chief operating officer of San Antonio Credit Union.

Cynthia Brotman Nelson, J.D., Dallas, whose area of practice is real estate at Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, has been named to the 2016 Texas and Colorado Super Lawyers lists.

Jennifer (Setser) Rymell, J.D., Fort Worth, judge of Tarrant County Court at Law No. 2, has been elected chair-elect of the Judicial Section of the State Bar of Texas beginning in September 2017.

1992

Benjamin F.S. Herd, B.A., an attorney with the law firm of Thompson & Knight, has been selected for inclusion in Texas Super Lawyers 2016 by Thomson Reuters, which was published in the October issue of *Texas Monthly*. The list reflects the top 5 percent of lawyers in Texas.

1993

Sandie Mullins Moger, M.B.A., Houston, has been appointed to the State Board for Educator Certification for a term expiring Feb. 1, 2021, by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott. The board develops certification and continuing education requirements and standards of conduct for public school teachers. Moger is a former Houston Community College Trustee for District VI.

CLASSNOTES *alumni news*

Clayton D. Richter, J.D., Austin, assistant attorney general in the Child Support Division's Austin offices, has been singled out by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton for his commitment to Texas children with his selection as Assistant Attorney General of the Year for the division's main office in Austin.

Barbara "Barbie" Scharf-Zeldes, J.D., San Antonio, who is an attorney and religious leader, has been honored by the San Antonio chapter of Hadassah, a women's volunteer American Zionist organization. President of Congregation Agudas Achim, Scharf-Zeldes received Hadassah's Making a Difference Award for her longtime public service and civic work.

1995

Xochitl Mora Garcia, B.A., McAllen, has been chosen as the new director of McAllen's Public Information Office. Her duties include providing new media relations initiatives internally and externally for the department, building promising relationships for McAllen and being in charge of citywide communications campaigns. For the past eight years she has held a similar position for the city of Laredo.

Brett Harrison, J.D., Dallas, has been appointed as a member to the board of the Texas Board of Legal Specialization (TBLS), where he will be working with board members in overseeing the organization's finances, enhancing the value of board certification and increasing public awareness of TBLS.

Christine Serrano, B.B.A., M.B.A. '99, El Paso, has been promoted to assistant principal at Cathedral High School.

Mark I. Unger, J.D., San Antonio, attorney and legal technology expert, has been named to the Fastcase 50 Class of 2016, which honors the law's smartest, courageous innovators, techies, visionaries and leaders.

1996

John Ashbaugh, B.A., Avondale Estates, Georgia, CEO of Xorbia Tickets, has been accepted as a member of Entrepreneurs' Organization in Atlanta. Xorbia Tickets, a SAAS event marketing and ticket platform, has been recognized on the Inc. 5000 list as among the fastest growing, privately held companies in the United States in 2015 and 2016.

John H. Best, J.D., San Angelo, has been appointed as district attorney for the 119th Judicial District in Runnels, Concho and Tom Green counties.

Roy Moreno, B.A., San Antonio, is working for QUALFON FARMERS and has been promoted as an agent billing representative. He has been recognized by the Texas State Kidney Foundation for his continued work and inspirational guidance to others, and his personal biography has been published by the Texas State Kidney Foundation.

1997

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Terrie Peterkin, B.B.A., Riverview, Florida, is assigned to the historic 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) serving as the comptroller and U.S. Army Senior Financial Management Advisor in Iraq for the Combined Joint Force Land Component Command-Operation Inherent Resolve.

John R. Roach Jr., J.D., McKinney, has led in advocating for the nation's first regional Veterans Court, which will provide veterans struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues with access to the help they need through a special region-wide initiative, North Texas Veterans Court. The court encompasses five counties — Collin, Rockwall, Kaufman, Grayson and Fannin — and will serve as a test site for this unique approach to assisting men and women who have served in our country's military.

1998

Dennis D. Curran, U.S. Air Force, Ret., M.A., Woodbridge, Virginia, who is a former U.S. Air Force human resources deputy vice president, has taken a job at Edmonds Community College as associate vice president of human resources.

Dara G. Hegar, J.D., Houston, an attorney with the Lanier Law Firm, has been named among the best in the nation by other lawyers and the publishers of the 2017 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

Mark E. Hernandez, J.D., San Antonio, has been hired by Goldman & Associates as an associate attorney.

1999

Susan (Waller) Ramos, J.D., Asheville, North Carolina, has opened Ramos Law Firm, P.C., focusing on U.S. immigration and nationality law, which she has practiced since 2003, representing employers, families and individuals in connection with assessing U.S. immigration options and strategies. A former criminal defense attorney, Ramos also advises criminal defense attorneys and non-citizen defendants regarding the immigration consequences of criminal conduct.

Marcelino Rodriguez, M.B.A., Sugar Land, corporate controller and chief accounting officer for KMG Chemicals Inc., has been named vice president and chief financial officer. He will oversee corporate finance, accounting, treasury, reporting and information systems technology. KMG is a global provider of specialty chemicals.

2000

J. Javier Gutierrez, B.B.A., Houston, and Marissa Gutierrez welcome son Cristian Javier Gutierrez, born in April.

Timothy E. Hudson, B.A., Dallas, a partner at Thompson & Knight, has been selected for inclusion in Benchmark Litigation Under 40 Hot List 2016, which identifies the leading U.S. trial attorneys and firms at the local and national levels.

2001

Edna Zambrano-Martinez, M.P.A., McAllen, and Angel L. Martinez welcome son Marcos Andres Martinez, born on May 6, 2016.

2002

Laura Barker, J.D., Georgetown, has taken the reins as judge for Williamson County's Court-at-Law No. 2.

Mark Hill, J.D., Frisco, has been elected president of the Collin County Bar Association for the 2016-2017 term.

2003

Whitney (Miller) Vela, B.A., M.A. '06, Richardson, and **Rick Vela, B.A. '04, M.A./J.D. '07**, welcome son Logan Alexander Vela, born Dec. 11, 2015. Rick has accepted a position as assistant district attorney in Dallas County.

2005

Daniel Lowenberg, J.D., Montrose, Colorado, merged his law firm with Jock Fleming, which is now known as Fleming & Lowenberg, a member of Mountain Law Group LLC, a general practice firm serving all of western Colorado. He reports he and his wife Shannon's daughter Ella graduated from Calvary Chapel Bible College in Murrieta, California, daughter Tairyn is in second grade, and son Gabriel is in first grade. Both attend Cottonwood Elementary in Montrose.

2006

Tracy (Cantu) Almanzan, J.D., El Paso, has become managing partner at Almanzan & Dawson.

Audrey (Ochoa) Gonzalez, B.A., San Antonio, and **Rudy Gonzalez, B.B.A. '04**, welcome daughter Auralee Rey Gonzalez, born May 29, 2016.

Kate Scully, B.A., New Haven, Connecticut, has completed a master's in Public Health with a concentration in Global Health at Emory University. She has received a full scholarship for the Center for International Nursing Scholarship and Education in the Yale University School of Nursing, where she will begin this fall and pursue a master's in Women's Health Nursing with a concentration in Midwifery.

New adventure? New job? New baby?
St. Mary's wants to share your updates!
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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2016 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

The St. Mary's University Alumni Association and the School of Law Alumni Association recently honored their outstanding graduates for 2016. Congratulations to these alumni for being great ambassadors of our Catholic and Marianist mission.

2007

Scott R. Davis, J.D., Houston, has opened a practice with attorney partners Pamela C. Hicks and Forrest J. Wynne.

2008

Forrest Commander, M.A., Waco, is a veterans' benefits adjudicator in the Veterans Affairs Health Resource Center in Waco. He has received a veterans' award from the Republican Party of Texas.

Mallory (Philman) Unger, B.B.A., M.A. '12, Fort Worth, works for BNSF Railway in the Intermodal Division and runs her own wedding and event business, Twenty-Three Balloons. Mallory and Christian Unger welcome daughter Leighton Olivia, born in March.

2009

Erica (Garcia) Cuellar, B.B.A., Edinburg, and **Aldo Cuellar B.B.A. '09**, welcome Daniela Sofia Cuellar, born Oct. 14, 2015. Erica has accepted an offer as controller with Delaware North working for the Rio Grande Valley FC Toros at the newly built stadium, H-E-B Park, in Edinburg.

Elizabeth Henderson, B.A., and **James Carter, B.B.A., M.B.A. '11**, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, welcome daughter Isabel, born June 24, 2016.

Jenna Saucedo-Herrera, B.B.A., San Antonio, is the new president and CEO for the San Antonio Economic Development Foundation, whose mission is to lead the region's economic development strategies and company recruitment. She was previously CPS Energy's vice president for public affairs and brand management.

Katherine Hopkins, J.D., Fort Worth, with Kelly Hart, Attorneys at Law, was presented with the Romina L.

Mulloy-Bossio Achievement Award during the State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting. The award, created in the memory of Mulloy-Bossio, honors Hopkins' service as an outstanding young bankruptcy lawyer who exemplifies the highest degree of professional proficiency, service to her profession and to her community.

2010

Adriana Jimenez, B.A., and **Miguel Segura, B.B.A. '11**, San Antonio, married Aug. 27, 2016. Jimenez has begun a new job as an associate attorney at the Law Office of Garcia & Ramirez.

Jessica Davies, B.B.A., Chicago, reports that in a span of two weeks this past April, she married Daniel Schimmel, she and her husband purchased a condo in downtown Chicago and Jessica started a new job after five years as a global product manager with a great company. The couple is renovating a condo and enjoying a new career as an online merchandiser in downtown Chicago for a startup company.

Christopher Stevenson, M.A., Rapid City, South Dakota, is the crime analyst for the Rapid City Police Department.

St. Mary's Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni honorees

Charles T. Barrett Jr. (B.B.A. '62): Barrett is president and CEO of Barrett Holdings Inc. He retired from the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve as a commander after 22 years, is a member of the St. Mary's Board of Trustees and has served on the Alumni Association Board.

Ray E. Berend (B.B.A. '67): Berend is a retired managing partner with Padgett Stratemann & Co LLP. He is a member of the Greehey School of Business Advisory Council of Executives, and has served on numerous philanthropic boards, including Roy Maas' Youth Alternatives Inc.

Col. Richard J. Muraski Jr., U.S. Army, Ret. (B.A. '87): Muraski, the assistant deputy director of the North Texas Water Municipal District, retired from the Army after 28 years. He is on the School of Science, Engineering and Technology's advisory board and is involved with the St. Mary's ROTC program.

Law Alumni Association's Distinguished Law Graduate honorees

The Hon. Donna Rayes (J.D. '80): Rayes has served on the 81st Judicial District of Texas since 2002. Before her election, Rayes worked in private practice for 22 years. She has served on many boards, including the Children's Alliance of South Texas.

James M. (Marty) Truss (J.D. '96): Truss is a shareholder at Dykema Cox Smith, for which he is director of the Energy Industry Group. Truss is a past president of both the St. Mary's Law Alumni Association and the San Antonio Bar Association.

Law Distinguished Young Alumnus honoree

Wroe Jackson (J.D. '10): Jackson is the chief of staff for Texas Sen. Joan Huffman of Houston. Before his chief of staff position, Jackson served three secretaries of state as general counsel.

Eric Weissling, B.B.A., Mexico City, Mexico, last year became the youngest professional basketball head coach at the age of 28. During his first year leading Náuticos de Mazatlán, he guided the team to Mexico's Cibacopa league championship. He was also named the 2016 Cibacopa Coach of the Year. In addition to the league championship, Weissling traveled to Shanghai and helped lead a Mexican all-star team at the 2016 World Hoops Challenge. His team won.

2011

Catherine Chesley Goodgion, J.D., Tyler, an attorney with Flowers Davis PLLC, has been granted registration with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which is open only to attorneys with a technical science degree, who must pass a separate bar exam.

Nissi Heredia, B.B.A., and **Aaron Thomas, B.B.A. '12**, Houston, married Aug. 20, 2016. Heredia has begun pursuing a master's in Occupational Therapy at Texas Woman's University's Houston campus. Thomas has earned an MBA with a concentration in Real Estate from the University of Houston.

Elise Medina, B.B.A., San Antonio, has been promoted to catering sales manager at the Omni San Antonio Hotel.

Ashlee Peña, J.D. '11, San Antonio, is pursuing a master's degree in Educational Policy and Planning at The University of Texas at Austin. Since law school, she has worked as a legislative aide on public education in the Texas Senate, advocated on behalf of Social Security Disability Insurance recipients, and started a private law firm. This past summer, she was a Graduate Fellow with the Archer Center Graduate Program in Public Policy in Washington, D.C., and interned with the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics.

Christine (Le) Taylor, B.A./M.A., San Antonio, is the new public affairs manager for the San Antonio/West Region in H-E-B's Public Affairs and Communications Department.

2012

Ashton (Peña) Campos, B.A., San Antonio, and Charles Campos welcome daughter Remington Belle Campos, born on Aug. 10, 2016.

Dylan Heart, B.S., Helotes, is a risk management consultant with KPA, a private firm specializing in regulatory compliance for the automotive industry.

Kevin Kotzur, B.A., and **Emily (Brittain) Kotzur, B.B.A. '14**, Kyoto, Japan, recently moved back to Japan where Kevin is playing professional basketball for the Kyoto Hannaryz basketball team and Emily is teaching English at Nishiyama High School.

Natalie Mendieta, B.A., Houston, has been promoted to staff chaplain at CHI St. Luke's Health in the Texas Medical Center and completed her residency in Clinical Pastoral Education in August.

Lena Scalercio, B.A., Altadena, California, has graduated with a master's in Strategic Public Relations from the University of Southern California.

2013

Justin Quiroz, B.A., Eldersburg, Maryland, recently professed vows as a Marianist brother in the Society of Mary.

2014

Thalia Foster, B.A., San Antonio, has been accepted into a three-year leadership program for the Department of Defense. Once she completes the program, her internship will take her to Washington, D.C., and eventually all over the world.

Amariah J. F. Gonzales, B.A., San Antonio, and Joshua B. Reyes married on July 30, 2016.

Kevin Lee Matula, B.A., San Antonio, has left his role in the Texas Legislature to serve as the external affairs coordinator for Zachry Group.

2015

Brandon Barnes, J.D., Austin, has been notified the paper he wrote as his final in American Legal History, which he took while a law student, is going to be published in the July 2017 *Journal of Supreme Court History (US)*, published by the Supreme Court Historical Society.

Manuela Gonzalez, B.A., San Antonio, is the first full-time employee of Emprendedora, a multicultural marketing agency based out of the Avenida Guadalupe offices in the heart of the West Side. Along with the Children's Hospital and the Goldsbury Foundation, the agency is spearheading the inception of culinary medicine, as seen and practiced first in San Antonio. CHEF (Culinary Health Education for Families) focuses on giving back to the community through fighting childhood obesity and bringing free cooking classes to underserved areas. Gonzalez is the social media coordinator and writer for the program. She shares that it is a source of pride for her to be a Rattler alum partaking in the notion of culinary medicine, a brand new concept making its way throughout the nation via San Antonio.

FONDESTFAREWELL



BROTHER CLETUS BEHLMANN, S.M.

Beloved artist Brother Cletus Behlmann, S.M., died July 12, 2016, in San Antonio at age 82. He left behind a trove of unique art and countless fans and friends.

Behlmann's health had been failing in recent years, forcing him into semi-retirement in December. Yet he still was able to provide a commemorative painting for the 100th anniversary of Fiesta Oyster Bake in April.

A Marianist brother and artist-in-residence at St. Mary's, he began studying art in the late 1950s. Behlmann taught for 19 years at St. Joseph School in Victoria, St. Joseph School in El Paso, and Maryhurst School/St. John Vianney High School near St. Louis. It was there he turned a chicken house into the Rooster Gallery to help educate Vianney art students, which he did until moving to San Antonio in 1977. Shortly thereafter, he opened the St. Mary's University Art Center.

The themes of his art are mostly religious but, overall, his work is a "celebration of life," according to the website for his 36th Street studio, which he closed last December because of his health. His art came in metal, acrylics, watercolor, batik, pastels, stained glass, ceramics, handmade paper, linoleum prints, crayon and other media.

Behlmann was born Nov. 3, 1933, the 11th of Mary A. and John H. Behlmann's 12 children. He grew up on the family farm and attended Sacred Heart School and McBride High School, a Marianist school in St. Louis, before earning his bachelor's degree in English from St. Mary's University in 1956.

He took first vows on Aug. 15, 1953, and his perpetual vows on July 13, 1958, at Our Lady of the Pillar Church in Clayton, Missouri.

FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

1940s

1941 **Jesse Rodriguez, B.S.C.**, San Antonio, died June 6, 2016.

1948 **Louis Hart McCormick Jr., B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 12, 2016.

1950s

1950 **Jesse Garza Fernandez, B.S., M.S. '66**, San Antonio, died Aug. 14, 2016. **Robert Leo Strickland, LL.B.**, Houston, died June 28, 2016.

1951 **Homer L. Barton Jr., CL**, Owensboro, Kentucky, died May 23, 2016.

1952 **William "Corky" Corcoran, B.B.A.**, Boerne, died May 21, 2016.

1956 **Bethel R. Coopwood, B.A.**, Arlington, died July 22, 2016. **Vann Culp, LL.B.**, Crockett, died July 9, 2016. **Erwin A. "Sonny" Reinhard, CL**, San Antonio, died June 3, 2016.

1957 **James Chessher, B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died July 8, 2016. **Charles P. Stallings III, CL**, San Antonio, died Dec. 9, 2015.

1958 **George Oswald Stenzel Jr., B.B.A.**, Texas City, died July 30, 2016.

1960s

1960 **Buddy Ray Chastain, LL.B.**, McKinney, died July 4, 2016.

1961 **Marvin Lebman, LL.B.**, San Antonio, died July 16, 2016. **Leonard Zittle Jr., B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died June 12, 2016.

1962 **Charlie Applegate, B.A., M.A. '69**, San Antonio, died June 16, 2016.

1964 **William Rand Dyer Sr., B.A.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 26, 2016. **James Darb Stewart Sr., B.B.A./LL.B.**, San Antonio, died May 17, 2016.

1966 **Joe K. McGill, J.D.**, Seminole, died June 1, 2016. **Richard William Minus, B.A.**,

M.A. '71, San Antonio, died June 29, 2016. **Robert Louis Wilson, B.S.**, Houston, died June 30, 2016.

1967 **Norman Manning, J.D.**, Thrall, died May 23, 2016.

1968 **Jerry Randolph Houser, J.D.**, Bismarck, Arkansas, died April 2, 2016. **Theodore Albert Mueller, B.S.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 2, 2016. **Edward Schilling, B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 1, 2016. **Horace Guy Spiller Jr., J.D.**, San Antonio, died July 29, 2016.

1969 **Herschel T. Moore Jr., LL.B.**, Austin, died Feb. 23, 2016.

1970s

1970 **Karen Ruble Johnson, J.D.**, The Hills, died June 5, 2016. **Bernard F. Ramzinski, B.B.A., M.A. '76**, San Antonio, died May 20, 2016. **Cynthia Shade, B.A.**, San Antonio, died May 6, 2016. **George Jerome "Jerry" Shaw, J.D.**, Lewes, Delaware, died June 1, 2016. **Anthony Wayne "Lucky" Tomblin, J.D.**, San Marcos, died May 24, 2016.

1971 **Adam T. Serrata, B.A., J.D. '74**, San Antonio, died June 30, 2016.

1972 **The Rev. Edward Marroquin Bernal, B.A., M.A. '79**, San Antonio, died May 29, 2016. **Mourine "Cherry" Burris, B.A.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 7, 2016. **Barbara P. Davenport, B.A.**, San Antonio, died July 19, 2016. **Praxedez C. "Del" De La Rosa, B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 27, 2016.

1973 **James Denton "Jim" Murff, J.D.**, Houston, died July 29, 2016.

1974 **Richard C. "Dick" Boward Jr., M.S.**, Peoria, Arizona, died March 15, 2016.

1975 **Lt. Col. Donald Richard Bertoldo, U.S. Air Force, Ret., M.B.A.**, Lexington, Kentucky, died May 15, 2016. **Edward Lee McCarley, B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died May 19, 2016.

1976 **Mario R. Valdez, B.S.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 12, 2016.

1977 **Willie Ramos, B.A.**, San Antonio, died June 8, 2016. **Mary (Bosiljevack) Richter, B.A.**, San Antonio, died May 27, 2016.

1978 **Robert Donald Tate, B.A.S., M.S. '81**, Sparta, Tennessee, died May 5, 2016.

1979 **Jonathan Lee Ripley, B.A.**, Dallas, died May 23, 2016.

1980s

1981 **Lt. Col. Charles John "Chuck" Hullinger Jr., U.S. Air Force, Ret., B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 9, 2016.

1983 **Stacy Maples Hrna, B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died June 11, 2016.

1985 **Roberto "Bob" Flores Jr., B.A.**, San Antonio, died Sept. 6, 2016. **Col. Richard "Craig" Nickerson, U.S. Air Force, Ret., M.A.**, Canton, Ohio, died June 25, 2016.

1986 **John Lewis Parten, M.A.**, San Antonio, died July 18, 2016.

1990s

1990 **Gerardo Bermea "Gerry" Flores, B.B.A.**, Dallas, died June 10, 2016.

1992 **Barbara Bogar Newberry, M.A.**, Spartanburg, South Carolina, died Feb. 2, 2016.

1993 **Melody Ann Tadlock Mills, J.D.**, Fort Worth, died May 19, 2016.

1995 **Hilary Lee Naab, J.D.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 29, 2016.

1999 **Francisco J. Saenz, B.B.A.**, San Antonio, died Sept. 3, 2016.

2000s

2002 **Matthew C. Hagen, J.D.**, Rochester, New York, died July 21, 2016.

2003 **Porfirio P. Navarro, M.S.**, San Antonio, died Aug. 3, 2016.



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Off to the races

St. Mary's students participate in wheelbarrow races during the second annual Gold Rush event to kick off the fall sports season, this year with an Olympics theme. Hosted by St. Mary's Athletics, the Gold Rush Olympics had 17 teams from across campus competing in eight field day events including dodgeball, a relay race and a water balloon toss. About 175 St. Mary's students participated in the event, which was followed by the home opener of St. Mary's Volleyball against rival St. Edward's University.

