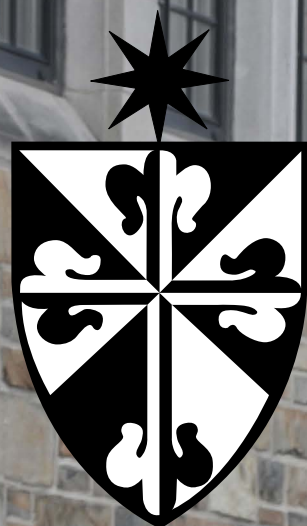


FALL 2021



FRIAR REPORTER

*The magazine for alumni, parents
and friends of Fenwick High School*



GRATITUDE FOR MEDICAL DOCTORS

TWO M.D. ALUMNI (AND
BROTHERS) RECENTLY
REUNITED WITH THEIR
FACULTY MENTORS AT
FENWICK

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Our Latest Campus Ministry Initiatives

A Student Preacher's Reflection

The Fall Sports Season Was One for the Ages!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fenwick Friends,

How many loyal Friars have taken the Hippocratic Oath over nine decades? This is not a “Trivia Tuesday” question, but it may be a trick one — because no one really is certain about the number of Fenwick’s alumni medical doctors, which conservatively is in the hundreds.

Written by the ancient physician Hippocrates between the 5th and 3rd centuries B.C., the *Hippocratic Oath* is one of the most widely known Greek medical texts. The document morally guides doctors to treat the ill to the best of one’s ability; to preserve patient privacy; to teach the “secrets” of medicine to the next generation — something our alumni M.D.’s have been doing since the 1940s. Editor Mark Vruno has done yeoman’s work in weaving together this tale of “Friar Med,” which highlights some 60 of Fenwick’s own beginning on page 14. Read, too, about one of the Friars’ most historic sports seasons — including a cross-country state championship for our boy runners and a trip downstate for our football team (outcome TBD)! (Page 20.)

This issue of the *Friar Reporter* also highlights the good works being done by Fenwick students under the direction of Director of Campus Ministry, Mrs. Mary Beth May, who joined us in 2019. Read about our partnership with Oak Park neighborhood school St. Catherine – St. Lucy as well as some current Christian Service Projects (page 12).

Recently, we asked alumni, parents, students and teachers why they are thankful for Fenwick. Several people responded (check our #FenwickFriars social-media feeds on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!), including Maureen Harnett, a current parent of a sophomore boy as well as a young alumna from the Class of ’20. “We are thankful that Fenwick High School kept their promise to empower our children to grow intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically,” writes Mrs. Harnett of Forest Park, IL. “Their tradition of excellence has inspired our children to be leaders and serve with kindness. Putting Fenwick on college applications is like a gold star because most colleges know where these kids came from. We are proud to be part of the Fenwick Community.” Thank you, Harnett family, for entrusting us with your children!

Find our financial *Annual Report* for 2020-21 **here**. The Friars wish you and yours a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas season.

Sincerely,



Fr. Richard Peddicord, O.P.
President

FENWICK’S MISSION

Fenwick High School, guided by Dominican Catholic values, inspires excellence and educates each student to **lead, achieve and serve**.

FRIAR REPORTER

FALL 2021

4

Community Happenings

National Merit Scholarship awards, NHS inductees, faculty retirements and more!

7

Institutional Advancement Recap

A review of Fiscal Year 2021.

10

Pray with Mary

A student preacher reflects on the importance of the Blessed Mother in her family's life.

12

Fenwick Ministries at Work

What do the Friars' Campus Ministry Programs look like today?

14

Friar Med

Meet some physicians and surgeons who received their STEM head start at Fenwick.

20

Athletics

The Fall of 2021 will go down in Fenwick sports history as one of the Friars' most successful seasons of all time!

22

Class Notes

29

In Memoriam

President
**FR. RICHARD
PEDDICORD, O.P.**

Principal
PETER GROOM

Chief Operating Officer
NANCY BUFALINO

*Vice President of
Institutional Advancement*
CHRIS RITTEN

*Director of
Alumni Relations*
PETER DURKIN '03

*Director of Marketing
Communications*
SCOTT HARDESTY

*Editor and Media
Content Manager*
MARK VRUNO

Questions or comments
for the *Friar Reporter*?
Contact Mark Vruno at
708-386-0127, ext. 132 or
mvruno@fenwickfriars.com

Fenwick High School
505 Washington Boulevard
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
708-386-0127
fenwickfriars.com



Fenwick High School is owned and sponsored by the Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Albert the Great headquartered in Chicago, Illinois.

On the Cover

Brothers Dr. Tord Alden '85 and Dr. Kris Alden '87 are flanked by faculty mentors, now retired, John Polka (far left) and Ramzi Farran (far right).

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



Hugo Nunez (from left), Kathryn Nairn, Samantha Carpenter, Lindsey Drumm and Finley Huggins are Fenwick's NMSC Semi-finalists for 2022.

Five Friars Are 2022 National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists!

Earlier this semester, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced those students who have qualified as semi-finalists in this year's Merit competition. Fenwick High School is pleased to report that five of its seniors have qualified for this honor! These students placed in approximately the top 1% of the more than 1.5 million students who sat for last year's PSAT/ NMSQT examination. Of the 16,000 semi-finalists, about half will be awarded scholarships under the auspices of the National Merit program, earning the "Merit Scholar" title.

"These seniors now move on to the next phase of the contest," explains Emily Anderson, one of Fenwick's College Counselors. Fellow College Counselor **Igho Oraka '03** adds, "Congratulations to them — and best wishes in the continuing competition!" The five semifinalists, with cities of residency and grade schools:

- **Samantha Carpenter** — *Forest Park*, St. Luke Catholic School (River Forest)
- **Lindsey Drumm** — *Hinsdale*, St. Isaac Jogues Catholic School
- **Finley Huggins** — *Oak Park*, Ascension Catholic School
- **Kathryn Nairn** — *Lombard*, Glen Westlake Middle School
- **Hugo Nunez** — *Berwyn*, St. Leonard Catholic School

These academically talented seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships, worth nearly \$30 million, to be announced between April and July 2022. A semi-finalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay and earn SAT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

[Read more online.](#)

WEB LOGS

Have you checked out Fenwick's "Friar Files" blogs online lately? New content posts almost weekly!

MORE RECOGNITIONS

Additionally, eight other seniors and juniors are recognized by National Merit:

AFRICAN AMERICAN RECOGNITION

- **Kamarra Grider**, *Chicago*
- **Lauren McClendon**, *Oak Park*

HISPANIC RECOGNITION

- **Tirza Garcia**, *Berwyn*
- **Gustavo Linares**, *Riverside*
- **Hugo Nunez**, *Berwyn*
- **Karina Perez**, *Cicero*

INDIGENOUS RECOGNITION

- **Dylan Fu**, *Forest Park*
- **Eric Spencer**, *Elmhurst*

NHS CLASS OF 2022 INDUCTEES

In early October, 126 members of Fenwick's Class of 2022 were inducted into the local chapter of the National Honor Society at a ceremony at St. Vincent Ferrer Church in River Forest, IL. These seniors met the 3.6 or higher GPA requirement as well as completed the application showcasing their dedication to the four NHS pillars: Scholarship, Service, Leadership and Character. Congratulations to all! [Read more online.](#)





From left: Amelia Scharpf, Grace Simmons, Peter Zeh, Aidan Evans, Vince Ian Beltran, LisaGrace Dillon and Keeley Sikora.

Meet our seven Commended Students for the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program

Fenwick High School is proud to announce that seven senior students have been named Commended Students in the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program. Some 34,000 Commended Students throughout the United States are recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Please congratulate:

- Vince Ian Beltran** — *Berwyn*, Heritage Middle School
- LisaGrace Dillon** — *La Grange Park*, St. Francis Xavier Catholic School
- Aidan Evans** — *Riverside*, Hauser Junior High
- Amelia Scharpf** — *Berwyn*, St. Mary's Catholic School (Riverside)
- Keeley Sikora** — *Oak Park*, Ascension Catholic School
- Grace Simmons** — *Riverside*, St. Mary's Catholic School
- Peter Zeh** — *River Forest*, Roosevelt Junior High

ROGER FINNELL '59 AND COACH DAVE POWER TO RETIRE IN 2022!

Congratulations to **Roger Finnell '59** and Dave Power, who have announced that they will retire at the end of the 2021–22 school year and girls' basketball season, respectively.

This is Mr. Finnell's 59th year of teaching and coaching mathematics to Friars. Power is Fenwick's longtime head coach for girls' basketball, who now is in elite company — becoming only the third coach in Illinois high school basketball history to win 1,000 games! Coach Power will retire from coaching after this season, which marks his 29th at Fenwick and 45th year overall. **Read the press release.**

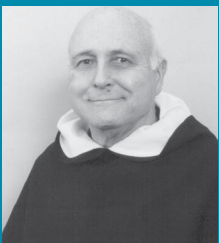
Watch a video message from Mr. Finnell.

ENGLISH TEACHER MRS. KOTTY GARNERS PEER RECOGNITION

Seventeen-year English Teacher Kim Kotty is the 2021 Fr. Conway, O.P. Educator of the Year! Mrs. Kotty, who teaches English III and moderates the Student Council, demonstrates excellence inside the classroom as well as a commitment to Fenwick outside of classroom. Kim is a DePaul U. alumna and is married to **Ray Kotty '85**, who teaches math and computer science at Fenwick; they live in Oak Park with their children, James and Cora. Congratulations!! **Read more about Kim online.**



Kotty



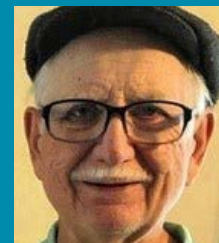
Fr. Gambro



Galvin



Wendt



Stewart



Arcsott

RIP, Friars

In September, the Fenwick Community lost Fr. John Louis (Mannes) Gambro, O.P. (1929–2021), Coach Ed Galvin (1933–2021) and alumnus **George Wendt** (1947–2021) from the Class of 1965.

In June, two retired Fenwick teachers passed away: Mr. Ron Stuart, 71, who taught Spanish and Western Civilization for 17 years (retired in 2015) and Mr. Bob Arcsott, 72, who taught math/calculus for 41 years (and retired in 2019).

SAVE THE DATES

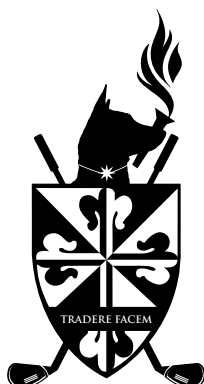
Friar Classic

Join us for the 53rd Friar Classic on Friday, June 10, 2022. This year's outing will return to Cantigny Golf Course in Wheaton.



Pass the Torch

The 12th Annual Pass the Torch Golf Outing will take place on Thursday, September 29, 2022. We are excited to announce this event will be hosted at Ridgemoor Country Club in Chicago.



For questions about these events, please contact **Peter Durkin '03** at pdurkin@fenwickfriars.com.



1000 WINS!

Friar Nation congratulates Fenwick Girls' Head Basketball Coach Dave Power on his 1,000th career victory, which he notched on November 19! Former players showed out as did the student section on a Friday night as the coach celebrated the historic milestone with his team. GO FRIARS!!

Call for Nominations

Ron Van De Walle '60 and **Dennis Marani '72** are the newest members of the Fenwick Hall of Fame and the Class of 1996, Fenwick High School's First Coed Class, is the latest *Lumen Tranquillum* honoree. If you would like to nominate names for either the Fenwick Hall of Fame or the *Lumen Tranquillum*, click on the links below for the nomination forms.

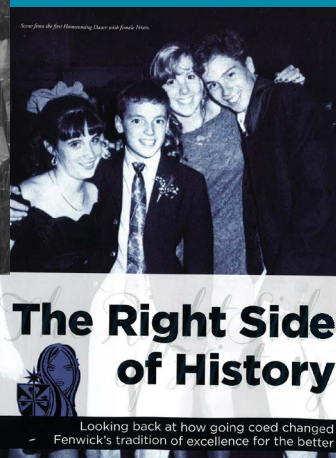
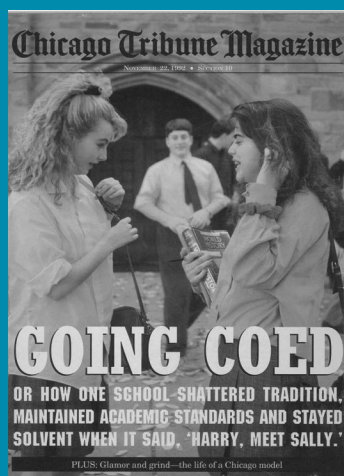
**Fenwick Hall of Fame
Nomination Form**
***Lumen Tranquillum*
Nomination Form**



Marani



Van De Walle





FY '21 YEAR IN REVIEW

A Dickens Story?

By Chris Ritten, Vice President of Institutional Advancement

Reflecting upon fiscal year '21 (7/1/20 thru 6/30/21), I couldn't help but think of the classic opening lines of Charles Dickens' novel, *A Tale of Two Cities*:

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way..."

These lines may well describe the "best" of medical advances and a roaring stock market amidst the "worst" of the physical and emotional pain and anguish of a pandemic. They may describe

our differing interpretations of facts and data, who are the fools and who are the wise, what to believe, what not to believe. They may describe our rollercoaster of pessimism and optimism, the concerns about the "soul" of our country and our beloved school.

Despite the real hardships and sacrifices that were borne by students and families, faculty and staff alike, the Fenwick spirit shone through in FY '21. Friar pride overcame a lot. It wasn't perfect. It wasn't always pretty. Mistakes were made, but much was achieved. We didn't always agree, but the Fenwick community collectively rallied to ensure our students were educated under extremely challenging circumstances.

For that, we have all of you to thank.

IL TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Help Fenwick students and receive a **75% state income tax credit** on your IL income tax bill!

Now in its fourth year, the **IL tax credit scholarship (TCS) program** allows IL state residents to make contributions to a scholarship granting organization (SGO), direct their gift to a private elementary or high school and receive a **75% state income tax credit** for the amount of the contribution. Direct a \$1,000 contribution to Fenwick, receive a \$750 **tax credit**. Direct a \$10,000 contribution to Fenwick, receive a \$7,500 **tax credit**, and so on, up to \$1,000,000!

To date (through 10/15/2021), Fenwick supporters have directed \$2.7+ million to Fenwick, saving them \$2+ million in IL state income taxes and resulting in \$2.5+ million in grants available to Fenwick students (the SGOs take 5%).

This program was extended beyond the original expiration date to December 31, 2023, and you can still take advantage of this program in the 2021 tax year! If you don't use all your tax credits this year, you can roll them forward for up to 5 years! Take advantage of a double tax break and donate long-term appreciated stock to avoid paying capital gains tax at the federal level and take the state income tax credit.



Please see either of the following SGO websites for more detail and to direct your contribution to Fenwick:

- **Big Shoulders SGO** <https://www.bigshouldersfundsgo.org/donate>
- **Empower Illinois SGO** <https://empowerillinois.org/donate/make-my-tax-credit-scholarship-donation/>

Thanks to all who have already taken advantage of the TCS program!

For more information or any questions about the IL TCS program, please contact Chris Ritten: 708-948-0350, critten@fenwickfriars.com

MAKE A GIFT FROM YOUR DONOR ADVISED FUND!

If you have established a donor advised fund (DAF), it is also a great way to make a gift to Fenwick without straining your finances. Many donors are taking advantage of the resurgence of the stock market and making larger than expected gifts from their DAFs to support Fenwick students without affecting their cash flow. ***If you have a DAF, you can support Fenwick students by contacting your fund provider and recommending a grant to Fenwick High School.*** For more information about the benefits of establishing a DAF, please contact Chris Ritten: 708-948-0350, critten@fenwickfriars.com

FENWICK IS NOW ACCEPTING CRYPTOCURRENCY FOR DONATIONS!

Fenwick is now accepting cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin and Ethereum as donations! Fenwick has partnered with a software platform called Engiven that directly links to Gemini, one of the world's largest and most secure cryptocurrency exchanges, where donations of 39 different types of crypto are immediately sold and credited to Fenwick's account for the benefit of our young Friars. **Please see Fenwick's donation page.**



Please consult your tax advisor for the latest regulations on tax deductibility, but for those with long-term (held for more than one year and a day) appreciated cryptocurrency, there may be real tax advantages to donating your crypto rather than selling it. Like more traditional donations of assets, cryptocurrency donations are tax-deductible to the full value of your donation regardless of the cost basis.

Do you own crypto and want to make history at Fenwick? If you are one of the first five crypto donors you will receive a gift from the Friar Shop. Be one of the first to help Fenwick enter this new age of philanthropy!

In this most paradoxical time, when Fenwick budgeted for a difficult FY '21, we were extremely fortunate to have a very good year financially. This had more to do with some extraordinary outcomes than it did our fundraising success, but we were well positioned and worked hard to take advantage of:

- Very positive investment returns and a forgiven PPP loan drove an increase in net assets of \$13.6 million, bolstering the balance sheet.
- Reduced expenses, stable tuition revenue and on-budget operating fundraising revenue led to an operating surplus.

Institutional advancement raised a lackluster total of \$3.9 million: annual giving (the operating budget) was right on track, but Centennial Campaign (non-operating) contributions lagged, reflecting a national trend away from bricks and mortar to direct-impact donations. The majority of Centennial Campaign donations were to endowment, rather than facilities:

- \$2.55 million in annual giving
- \$1.31 million to the Centennial Campaign: \$863k to endowment, \$448k to facilities

Institutional Advancement's total expenses (less marketing communications) of \$1.39 million were under budget, but despite that, our cost per dollar raised at \$.35 was too high (\$1.39 million expenses/\$3.92 million revenue). Especially with significant opportunity and excitement around the Priory property, we expect non-operating philanthropic revenue to increase in FY '22 and the overall cost per dollar raised to decline substantially.

The continued rally in the equity markets provides significant opportunity to consider donating from one's asset base rather than from one's income. There are also generally greater tax advantages for giving from one's assets as opposed to income. For some ideas on asset-based and tax-advantaged giving, please see the sidebars on the IL tax credit scholarship program, asset-based (planned) giving, donor advised fund (DAF) giving and cryptocurrency donations.

One of the themes of Dickens' great novel is resurrection. As a community of faith-filled people, where the Passion of our deaths and our risings is omnipresent in our lives, we remain an Easter people who believe in the promise of a better life, a better future. As our world, country and, indeed, Fenwick rise from this pandemic, as we heal the wounds of division in our country and in Friar Nation, Fenwick undoubtedly has glorious days ahead.

With your continued partnership, you can assure those glorious days ahead for Fenwick and its students. Your philanthropic sacrifice means educational excellence and access for all deserving students and a thriving, vibrant Fenwick for a second century.

Thank you very much for your continued interest in and support of Fenwick High School. It is a privilege to work with you and on behalf of Fenwick and our students. We are very grateful for your steadfast generosity and partnership. Please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns: critten@fenwickfriars.com, 708-948-0350. ✨

WEALTH IS IN ASSETS, NOT INCOME!

The vast majority of wealth for most people is in their asset base — homes, retirement accounts, non-retirement securities portfolios, life insurance, etc. — as opposed to their income stream. ***Giving from one's non-cash asset base generally has much greater tax advantages than donating cash.*** The simplest way to donate from your asset base is through a bequest in your will or trust. Gifting long-term appreciated stock is a great, tax-efficient way to give today. There are even ways to create an income stream for life, receive a tax break today, and make a major gift to Fenwick. To learn more about asset-based (planned) giving, please contact Jen Iarrobino, Major and Planned Gifts Officer: jiarrobino@fenwickforars.com, 708-948-0311.



FENWICK HIGH SCHOOL FRIAR COURTYARD

Personalize a gift for the Friars in your life.

Commemorative bricks can be purchased now for installation next summer in the ever more beautiful Fenwick Courtyard. A brick makes the ideal Mother's Day, Father's Day and graduation gift for soon-to-be young alumni from the Class of 2021.

Orders are due June 1, 2022. For more information about the courtyard bricks, please contact Dana Wesolowski, Donor Relations Administrator, at dwesolowski@fenwickfriars.com or 708-948-0347.

Click here for an order form.



Pray with Mary Every Day

During Mass the week celebrating Our Lady of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady of Victory), a Fenwick student preacher reflected on the importance of the Blessed Mother in her family's life.

By Charlize Norielle Guerrero '22 (Elmwood Park, IL)

“**A**ba Ginoong Maria, napupuno ka ng grasya. Ang panginoong Diyos ay sumasaiyo.” Devoted voices rang throughout Santísimo Rosario praying in unison. The Filipino Church was across the street, yet somehow I could still hear the parishioners loud and clear. “Bukod kang pinagpala sa babaeng lahat.” Like any typical five-year-old, I whined as my mom took my hand and brought me to Mass. The church was filled to the brim with what felt like thousands. All the seats were taken, yet people of all ages continued to pour in. “At pinagpala rin naman ang anak mong si Hesus.”

I scanned the room, and everyone, from the priests, to the grandmothers, to the children, firmly held a rosary in their hand. Their eyes were glued to the portrait of Mary lovingly looking down upon them. “Santa Maria, Ina ng Diyos, Ipanalangin mo kaming makasalan. Ngayon at Kung kami’y mamamatay



Ms. Guerrero delivering her reflection (in person and via video livestream) on October 7, 2021.

Amen.” I didn’t know at the time, but the churchgoers were saying “The Hail Mary” in the Filipino Language, Tagalog. And although I did not fully understand

their words, when I heard them pray with utmost confidence, reverence and devotion, I felt the Holy Presence of Mary with all of us.

Every single Sunday, these parishioners would pack the church hoping to hear the word of God. Even if all the seats were taken, many would stand by the doors and listen, despite the heat and humidity upon them. And before each Mass, without fail, everyone would pray the rosary together. When I sat in the seats of Santísimo Rosario and looked around, I would see people from many different walks of life. Yet as we were gathered under the loving presence of Mary, we were all truly one, united body.

Many in the Philippines do not have the same privileges that we take for granted every single day. They unfortunately do not have the luxuries of running water, food security and electricity. And when he was growing up, my father was one of them.

My father is an incredible witness of trust in Mary's intercessory power and the power found in praying the Rosary. No matter what happened, for both good and bad, my dad always had the rosary by his side. Despite the many changes and setbacks in his life, Mary was always his constant theme. As he grew up, he often visited Santísimo Rosario and prayed the rosary.

He prayed with Mary when he couldn't afford his education.

He prayed with Mary as our family immigrated to the United States.

He prayed with Mary after he passed the medical board exams.

And he prays with Mary each and every day, giving thanks or asking for guidance.

My dad shows me how we can turn to Mary even during the roughest parts in our lives. I admire how he and the parishioners at Santísimo Rosario, even in the face of adversity, always held firm in their faith. Rather than resenting God, they turned to both him and Mother Mary during their struggles. Like Mary, they trust in God.

Mary is the perfect faith role model. As shown in the Gospel, following her initial confusion, Mary willingly accepts God's



call. She trusts that he knows what is best for her. We should pursue that same level of devotion. While we may not always know what God has in store for us, we must trust in God as Mary would.

In times of doubt, trust in God.

In times of sorrow, trust in God.

And even during those times where it seems like nothing is going right we must:

Trust. In. God.

When I was in Santísimo Rosario, I could truly feel Mary's undeniable presence pervade the entire room. And even today, as we are all gathered here together, I can feel Mary's presence. And, hopefully, you all can too ... Mary is still here. Mary has always been here.

As we go through life, we must remember that Mary walks with us; she is there for

us and will always intercede for us as we continue to grow in our trust in God. So as we begin this mass in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary, I encourage you all to truly listen and reflect upon the ever-so-famous prayer:

Hail, Mary, full of grace,

the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou amongst women

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.



Fenwick Campus Ministry at Work

What do the Friars' campus ministry programs look like today? | By Mark Vruno

The big news coming out of Oak Park last month was the newly renovated Maguire Hall Gymnasium and the Fenwick Center for Educational Excellence, which were officially dedicated and blessed at St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy Catholic School (SCSL) on October 7. Our students now are able to share use of the renovated gym there, which is nearby on Washington Blvd. in Oak Park, while the tutoring of grade-school children by Friar students can continue in the center's improved workspace. The partnership also provides scholarship funds for SCSL students who attend Fenwick.

Since the Friar Reporter first covered the Fenwick **"Power Hour"** at SCSL three years ago, the tutoring program has continued to evolve as one of Fenwick's Christian Service Project opportunities for juniors. More students have gotten involved, says moderator and English/Speech Teacher Geralyn Magrady, and they are teaching more subjects. "In 2018, we had up to 15 Fenwick juniors two days per week," Ms. Magrady says. "Now, between 15 and 20 of our juniors tutor at St. Cate's every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m." And, in addition to mathematics, today these young Friars are helping SCSL grade-school students with homework guidance



3 FENWICK FACTS

- Friar students and faculty still have the opportunity to celebrate Mass daily at 7:30 a.m. in the school's Pearl and Angelo Mazzone Chapel. Morning prayer and Mass intentions are written and read by students.
- German/Social Studies Teacher Mr. Peter Gallo invites students and faculty to pray the Rosary with him daily in the Fenwick Courtyard.
- New this school year, student sacristans help with chapel upkeep and set up liturgical items for Mass.

and reading comprehension as well.

Whereas previously the Fenwick liaison worked one-on-one with SCSL Principal Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Magrady presented recently at a SCSL faculty meeting. "I'm now in communication with teachers who have specific needs for specific students," she reports.

Of the tutoring facility's physical upgrades, she remembers how the students worked "in an empty basement room with metal folding chairs and plastic folding tables, which we set up and took down before and after each session." Now, "we work each day in an inviting atmosphere with comfortable furniture and lighting," an appreciative Magrady says. Work tables are equipped with dry-erase boards "and we are wi-fi ready with technology at our fingertips!"

That's right: There was no Internet connection before. Today, a cart of 40 Google ChromeBook tablet computers are available for students and tutors to use. The content has changed, too. "Before, our tutors were teaching from general, grade-level math packets," Magrady continues. "Now, they offer individualized skill and test-taking support through educational apps and websites as well as hard-copy practice.

Junior student Frank LaMantia '23 (Riverside, IL) tutors a SCSL grade-schooler in the renovated Fenwick Center for Educational Excellence.

“Those little fourth-graders from three years ago are in seventh grade now,” Ms. Magrady concludes, adding that she hopes to see many of them **“shadowing”** at Fenwick this coming spring.

Catholic Charities Partnership

In addition to thrice weekly tutoring sessions at St. Catherine – St. Lucy, Fenwick students also are involved with Catholic Charities Chicago. Twice a month, Friars volunteer for the 4-to-6:00 p.m. shift at a food pantry in nearby Cicero, IL. “We assist with Clients’ Choice, helping clients of the food pantry to shop for their food and any other resources the food pantry may also coordinate, such as diaper distribution for families with young children,” reports Assistant Campus Minister Hope Zelmer, who helps to coordinate the effort and also teaches theology at Fenwick.

The first week of the month, students comprise the volunteer pool — in November, for example, members of Fenwick’s Italian Club volunteered their time. Other teachers help, too. “On the third week of the month, faculty and staff go together in small groups,” Mrs. Zelmer points out.

“An essential part of the Christian life is to love and serve our neighbor,” she explains. “Loving service that both recognizes the dignity of each human person and works toward building a more



Maeve Welsh '23 (Elmhurst, IL) is one of some 20 Fenwick juniors tutoring three times per week at the neighboring grade school in Oak Park.

just world is incumbent upon those who wish to follow Jesus. In addition to this being an important and beautiful way to live out Fenwick's mission and recognize the face of Jesus in those around us, serving together also provides us an opportunity to build community with one another.

Student prayer and preaching

“We are trying to have students take ownership and leadership of prayer so that they can minister to one another,” says Campus Minister Mrs. Mary Beth May, who came to Fenwick two years ago from Notre Dame College Prep in Niles, IL.

In addition to Eucharistic Ministers, lectors, choir member and cantors, student members of the Friars’ Preaching Team offer up reflections throughout the school year at Fenwick’s all-school

Masses. Two recent examples have been repurposed into blogs:

- **All Souls’ Day Mass**
- **Our Lady of the Holy Rosary**

The Kairos senior retreat experience continues to be a differentiator for Fenwick students:

- **Young Alumnus Nick Polston '21 Blogs About Kairos**
- **The Powerful Pillar of Prayer**

ADVENT DISCUSSION ON CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Join Fenwick President Fr. Richard Peddicord, O.P. as he hosts a two-part discussion on **“Catholic Social Teaching.”** All are welcome to participate in person or via video livestream.

- Part 1 is on Wednesday, December 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the Gearen Library at Fenwick.
- Part 2 of the series will occur during the 2022 Lenten Season (date TBD).

Please RSVP here for the December 8 Discussion.



JUNIOR SERVICE PROJECT: As part of the “Pedal Power” program, this fall Fenwick student Grant Schleiter '23 (Elmhurst, IL) has helped to collect more than 180 bicycles for children who make the academic honor roll at Cesar Chavez Multicultural Academy, a public grade school in Chicago.



Friar Med

Helping people to heal and saving human lives:

Meet some physicians and surgeons who received their STEM head start at Fenwick!

By Mark Vruno

The STEM acronym is nothing new to secondary education. For students of Fenwick, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) have been staples of our **school's curriculum** for the better part of 90 years — long before they became buzzwords. Some proof of that is personified in hospitals and operating rooms across the United States (and the world), as physicians and surgeons with FHS diplomas facilitate the healing process for people who are sick.

Dr. Ed Ward '85 is a shining example. A Rush University Medical Center emergency-medicine physician in Chicago, Dr. Ward is one alumni doctor **on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis**. “Ed runs the emergency room at Rush downtown. He starred in many [stage] shows here



Dr. Ward

and married a girl [Pamela] he met in the plays whose three brothers went to Fenwick,” relates **soon-to-retire Math Teacher and alumnus Roger Finnell '59**, whose memory is akin to a steel trap. Like many Fenwick medical families, the Wards sent their own children to Oak Park to become Friars: son **Dylan** is a member of the Class of '18, and daughter **Sydney** graduated in 2019.

Dr. Ward is a family-medicine specialist, interim chairperson of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Rush and an associate professor at Rush Medical College. He received his M.D. from the University of Illinois College of Medicine (Chicago) and completed his emergency-medicine residency within the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System in Chicago.

In northeastern Florida, nephrologist **Dr. Thomas Gonwa '67** specializes in kidney disease and transplants. Although he retired in 2017, three years later “this thing called COVID happened,” he says, and Gonwa heeded the call back



Dr. Gonwa

to service — to assist transplant patients infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus at the Mayo Clinic of Medicine and Science in Jacksonville, FL. After working

for nine months at the hospital's COVID Clinic, “a huge backlog was created of more than 400 people on the [kidney] transplant list awaiting evaluations,” he explains, which is what occupies most of his time these days.

Since 2001, Dr. Gonwa has served as a professor of medicine at Mayo's Jacksonville clinic. His primary research interests have been in the development of new immunosuppressive drug regimens in solid organ transplantation. Over the years, Gonwa's educational pursuits have taken him from Indiana (magna cum laude under-graduate at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer) and Chicago (University of Illinois, M.D.), southeast to

Four Fenwick alumni doctors in action (clockwise from top left): Dr. Maria Latz '04 (at right), Dr. Kris Alden '87, Dr. Srin Mukundan '03 (at right) and Dr. Dan Bethencourt '71.

North Carolina's Bowman Gray School of Medicine (NC Baptist Hospital, residency) and west to San Francisco (Cardiovascular Research Institute at the University of California). Through it all, he harkens back to his days as a student-athlete in the 1960s at Fenwick High School, to where he commuted for two and a half years from his family's home in west-suburban La Grange, IL. "I did a lot of homework on those 40-minute bus rides," Gonwa says with a laugh.

"The sciences always intrigued me at Fenwick," Dr. Gonwa admits, but some of the biggest lessons he learned as a teenager came from participating in competitive sports. "Swimming, water polo and tennis taught me how to focus and concentrate and not postpone my studies," he shares. "Fenwick swimmers know they'd better be disciplined. The alternative is failure [in the classroom]."



Dr. Mukundan

Back at Rush is fellow alumnus **Dr. Srin Mukundan '03**, a pulmonologist, who returned from Oregon to Chicago. Last year, he was immersed with

COVID patients in the intensive-care unit at 1620 W. Harrison Street. "In addition to being just a brilliant guy, Dr. Mukundan was an amazing guitarist who rocked at BANUA several years in a row!" remembers classmate **Peter Durkin**, director of alumni relations at Fenwick.

Repairing broken hearts

Mr. Finnell is proud of many former students over the past six decades, including **Dr. Dan**

Bethencourt '71, a thoracic and cardiac surgeon in Southern

California. Bethencourt has performed more than **500 robotic, "remote controlled" heart-bypass surgeries** — helping patients return to full activities in as few as two weeks.



Dr. Bethencourt

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, according to the latest statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). One person dies every 36 seconds in the United States from cardiovascular disease; approximately 659,000 people die from heart disease each year — one in every four U.S. deaths.

"Everything I ever learned, I learned at Fenwick High School," proclaims Dr. Bethencourt, who studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Yale University, "... from how to write clearly to more important daily examples of dedication set by the teachers and coaches." For context, Finnell adds: "Dan was a star swimmer/water polo player while at Fenwick."

As Drs. Bethencourt, Gonwa, Ward and other Friar alumni physicians can attest, the high school's college-prep curriculum features world-class STEM — and, perhaps more importantly, top-notch, soulful teachers. Among younger alumni raising Fenwick's doctor torch into the era of modern medicine, **Dr. Maria Latz '04** is a cardiologist who, in 2020, began a three-year cardiovascular-disease fellowship at Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center. She received her medical degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine (Cleveland) and spent four years as chief resident at Loyola University Medical Center (Maywood, IL).

As a young teenager, Latz had an interest in medicine, "but I hadn't tested into honors-level courses at Fenwick," she recalls. Then, she took a summer-school class between her freshman and sophomore year. "**Mr. Farran** [chemistry teacher, now retired] told me I had a knack for chemistry — that I was 'quick and good at it,'" remembers Dr. Latz, whose father, **Peter Latz**, also is a Friar (Class of '79) — as are her siblings, several cousins and uncles. Farran told Maria that she "could do it" and encouraged the then 15-year-old to pursue honors/advanced-placement (AP) level courses. That confidence boost is just what the, um, doctor ordered.

Ms. Latz went on to take AP anatomy and physiology courses as part of her well-



GOOD CHEMISTRY: Dr. Latz, now a cardiologist, credits Mr. Farran with her boost of academic confidence at age 15.

rounded Fenwick experience. (She also acted in school plays, led Kairos retreats and served as a wrestling team manager.) "Dissecting a sheep's heart in [biology] lab made me fall in love with cardiology," admits Latz, who hopes to "come home" to the Chicago area in 2023. She is applying for an advanced cardiac-imaging fellowship at both Loyola and NU and, incidentally, got married on November 13 (congratulations!).

Dr. Stephany Mazur '09, a fourth-year radiology resident at Northwestern University (Chicago), also has fond memories of Mr. Farran.

"My motivation to become a physician was fueled by the dedication of the faculty members at Fenwick," she asserts. "I particularly remember being inspired by the dedication to learning that Mr. Ramzi Farran (chemistry) exemplified, as well [by] the passion to make an impact that Mrs. Irene Drago (Spanish) possessed. The example set by the Fenwick faculty helped to inspire me to live a life of meaning and service to others.



Dr. Mazur

continued on next page

FENWICK CONNECTIONS

Alumnus **Dr. Tord Alden** (Class of 1985) was hired into informatics at Lurie by fellow Fenwick Friar **Dr. Michael Kelleher '75**, who spent 17 years at Lurie. In 2020, Dr. Kelleher became the chief medical officer of Amita Health (Mercy Medical Center, Aurora, IL). For 11 months he chaired the COVID-19 Vaccine Steering Committee, which administered more than 50,000 doses to area health-care workers, first responders and patients. Dr. Alden was not aware that Fenwick Hall of Famer **Dr. Clem McDonald '58** developed one of the first electronic medical record systems to improve patient care back in 1972. Today, Alden's clinical informatics work at Lurie focuses on electronic health records. "It's all about how we look at, analyze and use data," he explains, "and how to harness patient information to improve the care that we are delivering." The pioneering Dr. McDonald now works as a senior investigator at the National Institutes of Health's Intramural Research Program.

Read about 35 more Fenwick-educated medical doctors.

Follow #FenwickFriars on Facebook, Instagram and/or Twitter for social-media posts about additional medical alumni.

continued from preceding page

"I had wanted to become a doctor in order to be able to help and care for others for as long as I can remember," continues Dr. Mazur, who completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame. "Through the four pillars of the Dominican Order, Fenwick helped to nurture values of service, study, community and prayer, which helped to further strengthen my desire to become a physician. These pillars were also central in helping guide me through the difficult

years of medical school [at Georgetown University] and the further challenges throughout diagnostic radiology training."

Fenwick's Rich Medical Tradition

Thus far, we've touched on only nine Fenwick doctors. The task of rounding them up is daunting because the Friar alumni medical vitae is long and distinguished, to say the least — far too lengthy to be comprehensive in

this report. Below we mention some 60 more FHS M.D.'s. Please note that Fenwick's database is only as accurate as the data it's "fed," so if you know of other alumni doctors and nurses who are not mentioned here, please email us at communications@fenwickfriars.com. (We apologize in advance for any inadvertent omissions.)

Dr. John White '70, who notably is surgery chairman at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, IL. Dr. White earned his M.D. degree from Columbia University in New York City and completed his residency at Columbia Presbyterian Med Center, then received a vascular fellowship from Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. He also has served in the Temple School of Medicine's Surgery Department in Philadelphia.

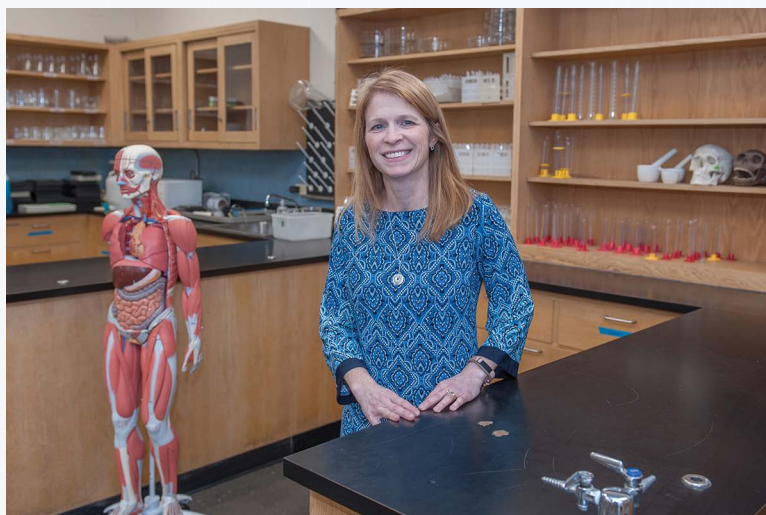
Stories of Friar doctors seem endless.

Dr. Leonard Vertuno '57, now retired in Florida but once, too, a nephrologist (Loyola-educated), recalls when fellow Friar **Dr. Pete Geis '60**, a transplant surgeon, asked him to come to the aid of their old swimming coach, the legendary **Dan O'Brien '34**.

This year, **Dr. John Cahill '72** and **Dr. Phillip Cozzi '79** have been featured as part of Edward-Elmhurst Health's "**This Is Personal**" advertising campaign in print and on video. **Bob Brejcha, Jr. '72**, one of Dr. Cahill's classmates — and now a patient — is one of many proud

FRIAR FACT:

Did you know that Fenwick has a medical doctor on its faculty? Two years ago, pediatrician **Jennifer Riggs, M.D.** traded in her stethoscope for dry-erase markers! (Oh, and she coincidentally went to med school with Friar alumnus Dr. Tord Alden from the Class of 1985!)



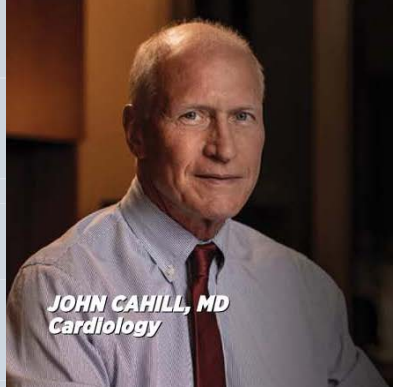
Friars who have noticed the billboards. One rises above Route 88 (the old I-5), “west of Lombard on the north side of the highway,” observes Brejcha, who frequently sat next to Cahill at 505 Washington between 1968 and 1972. “Now, he’s my cardiologist.”

Of course, Brejcha is not the only alumnus entrusting his healthcare to a Friar doctor. Fenwick faculty members often call on alumni to care for themselves and family members. Suburban orthopedic surgeon **Dr. Kris Alden ’87**, who specializes in hip, knee and shoulder joint reconstruction, “[replaced] both of my hips in June 2017 and December 2017,” reveals long-time Social Studies Teacher and former Friars’ head basketball coach **John Quinn ’76**. “Now I can walk again, even run, largely pain-free.”

Dr. Tord Alden ’85, Kris’s older brother, became a neurosurgeon and is chief medical informatics officer (see sidebar) at **Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital in Chicago**, which was known as Children’s Memorial Hospital until nine years ago. He also works out of outpatient clinics in Lincoln Park and Westchester, IL.

Many 1980s’ Fenwick classmates may remember Tord and Kris by the last name of Alshabkhoun, which the family changed in the early ’90s, taking a surname from their Bostonian mother’s side of the family. Dr. Shakeab Alshabkhoun, their father, emigrated from Iraq to Turkey at age 16 and attended college and med school at Istanbul Universitesi, then interned in the United States. Now retired, he was a cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon. Both Alden siblings attended the University of Chicago. When Tord was young, however, he never thought of himself as “smart enough” to go to medical school.

“I was not a good student at Hinsdale Middle School,” Tord admits, adding that he day-dreamed a lot and listened to the radio too much. “I think I had like three C-minus grades, two D’s and a B in gym. I know I got straight D’s in math. I asked my Dad for some money to go out to celebrate my eighth-grade graduation, and he responded, ‘To celebrate what?’”



JOHN CAHILL, MD
Cardiology

Dr. Cahill ’72 and fellow alumnus Dr. Cozzi ’79 are featured as part of Edward-Elmhurst Health’s “This Is Personal” marketing campaign.

Kris, his younger brother, who earned a PhD. and M.D. degrees, was always “the smart one,” says Tord, who also is Lurie’s co-director of skull base/tumor surgery and an associate professor of pediatric neurosurgery at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine. “Kris got straight A’s in junior high,” reports his older brother.

Tord Alden is grateful to his mother for never giving up on him and his potential. “Every day, she would tell me, ‘You can do this, Tord. You just need to apply yourself!’” Looking back on his childhood, the doctor suspects he may have suffered from undiagnosed ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder). Despite lacking focus, Tord wanted to go to Fenwick. “Hinsdale Central was only a block away, but I felt I’d get lost there,” he recalls. “I realized that I needed structure.”

At Fenwick, teachers such as Karen Cox (English), Ramzi Farran (chemistry and JETS (Junior Engineering Technical Society) coach), Fr. Joe Hren (Latin), **Ed Ludwig** (mathematics) and Fr. Jordan McGrath (math), “all played a role in my development as a student,” Dr. Alden reflects. “They taught me that I could actually do it. Fr. McGrath taught me the discipline of math, which I ended up getting an A in. Mr. Farran instilled a lot of enthusiasm for learning; his students left [Fenwick] feeling like they could do anything.”

Dr. Kris Alden describes Farran’s influence on his older brother as literally life-changing. “Beyond his mentorship in the chemistry classroom and lab, Ramzi wrote a strong letter of recommendation for Tord to the University of Chicago,” where he majored in chemistry and statistics. (The Maroons accepted 10 members of Fenwick’s Class of ’85!) He

then enrolled in a biostatistics Ph.D. program at Cal-Berkeley but found himself gravitating away from numbers and toward the medical side. After obtaining his M.S. degree, Tord applied to medical schools.

Kris, a swimmer while at Fenwick, asserts that his pre-med classes at the University of Chicago (B.A. in biology) were easier than the Friars’ AP physics and chemistry classes his senior year in 1986-87. “There’s no doubt that the bar was set high: My demanding high-school experience made college and medical school less stressful for me,” he notes. “Fenwick has amazing teachers. Ramzi [Farran] and Roger [Finnell] used college-level textbooks.” **John Polka** chaired the Science Department at the time.

“After Fenwick, I felt prepared,” continues Dr. Kris Alden, who thought highly enough of the Friars’ academic reputation to send his stepson to study in Oak Park. Young alumnus **Josh Kirkham ’19** now is a junior at Bradley University (Peoria, IL) and a member of the Braves men’s golf team.

Intrigued by the research opportunities at the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Kris spent his first two years there in medical school, followed by four years in a PhD. program, and then another two years to finish med school (1994-2002). “It sounds pretty miserable, I know, but it went by fast! In the end, I decided I wanted to deal with people and not [with] cells and molecules.” The extremely busy doctor completed his orthopedic surgery residency training at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore (2002-07) and also completed a fellowship sub-specialization in hip and knee reconstruction at Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN).

continued on next page



On November 16, anatomy teacher Dr. Riggs demonstrated the new classroom/lab technology for the Drs. Alden (to her left), Mr. Polka and Mr. Farran.

NEW ANATOMAGE TABLE

Alumni and parents have stepped up to raise \$65,000 toward our Science Dept.'s 3D Anatomage Table, which students began using this semester in anatomy classes. "My daughter [a senior] loves this learning tool," says her mother, Laura Zawacki of Oak Park. "It is helping Sara toward her dream of becoming a nurse." Fenwick is nearly two-thirds of the way to its \$100,000 goal of funding the project. The high-tech table features four digital cadavers, which were real people with actual diseases (their faces have been altered) who "donated their bodies for this Anatomage project," reports Major Gifts Officer Jen Iarrobino. How realistic is the technology? At least two students have fainted while using it, according to Principal Peter Groom!

Specify "Anatomy Lab" when making a gift.

continued from preceding page

Our list of M.D.s continues

Before the aforementioned Dr. Cahill attended Yale University in the prestigious Ivy League, then studied and worked to become a cardiologist, he was the Knute Rockne Memorial Award winner in the Chicago Catholic League (CCL) during the 1971 football season at Fenwick. Later in his career, he was medical staff president at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital. Off the top of his head, Athletic Trainer **Tony McCormick '78** named four doctors who he knows graduated from Fenwick. "There's Joe Bresnahan, Mike Collins and Jimmy Ross," McCormick says. In fact, four of the eight Bresnahan brothers (Friars from 1962 through '79) became doctors. According to school records, **Denny Bresnahan '66**, the eldest, is a cardiologist in Kansas City; his "Irish twin" **John '67** is a cardiologist at Mayo Clinic in Minnesota; **Will '71** is a dentist in Omaha; and **Joe '79**, the baby, is a gastro-intestinal specialist in River Forest, IL.

Dr. James Ross, OD '77 (Chicago) is an area optometrist with more than 30 years

of experience, graduating in 1989 from the Illinois College of Optometry. While at Fenwick, "Jimmy" ran cross country and track for the Friars, McCormick says.

"And don't forget **Dr. Victor 'Rocky' Romano** — and his kids," Mr. Quinn adds of his 1976 classmate. "Doc Romano has faithfully served our community as a primary athletic physician since 1985 in the field of orthopedics," Quinn notes. "He is a published author in his field on balance, among other things." **Dr. Maria McGann '03**, Romano's daughter, is a foot and ankle surgeon at the Romano Orthopedic Center (Elmhurst, Forest Park and River Forest, IL). She completed her fellowship at the renowned Foot and Ankle Center in Columbus, OH, specializing in forefoot, midfoot and hindfoot reconstruction as well as total ankle arthroplasty.

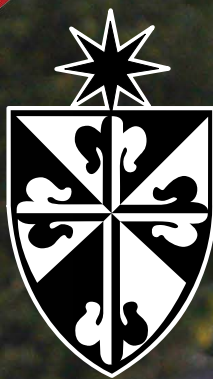
Prior to fellowship, Mrs. McGann completed her orthopedic residency in Chicago through Northwestern University, where she served as co-chief resident. She also received her medical degree in Doctor of Osteopathy (DO) from Northwestern University Chicago College

of Osteopathic Medicine in Downers Grove, IL. Maria completed a M.A. in medical sciences from Loyola University - Chicago and her undergraduate degree in science business comes from the University of Notre Dame (her father and grandfather's college alma mater).

Orthopedic surgeon **Joe Romano '10**, Rocky's son and Maria's younger brother, also graduated from Notre Dame (where he played football) and, in 2018, from the Loyola University of Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. The younger Dr. Romano was a resident physician at Vanderbilt University Medical School and now works in Nashville. ✨



Dr. Romano



FRIAR PRIDE

The Comprehensive History of Fenwick High School Football

*Researched, compiled and written by Russell N. [unclear]
Fenwick Class of 1966*

© Published by Fenwick High School 20

**GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT!
ORDER ONLINE HERE**

2021 FALL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS



BOYS' CROSS COUNTRY TEAM WINS STATE 2A CHAMPIONSHIP!

On November 6, Friars Boys' Cross Country became the first high school team from the Chicago Catholic League to win an IHSA state title! Our newest, first-place trophy marks the 28th state championship for Fenwick. Junior **Grayden Rill** (top right) and sophomore **Nate McKillop** (bottom right) earned earned All-State honors for their performances. [Read how Fenwick's XC Team made history in Peoria!](#)



Fenwick swimming teammates at the IHSA 2021 State Tournament (from left): Baileigh Racky, Evelyn Mulvihill, Lindsey Drumm, Anna Doherty, Cailey Peele and Kailyn McHugh.

4 New All-State Swimmers

The Fenwick Girls' Swimming Team finished 20th at state this past season. Dartmouth-bound senior **Lindsey Drumm** finished sixth in the 100 Fly to earn individual All-State recognition. **Baileigh Racky**, **Anna Doherty**, Drumm and **Kailyn McHugh** finished 10th in the 200 Medley Relay to earn All State recognition!



FenTen Girls Take Third in Illinois

Fenwick's Girls Tennis Team placed third in Illinois Class 1A at the IHSA State Finals in Buffalo Grove on October 23! A total of 80 teams competed in the state tournament. [Read more about the Friars' best tennis finish in school history!](#)



FOOTBALL TEAM ADVANCES TO 5A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Friars' football team (11-2 as of press time) beat previously undefeated St. Ignatius on October 22 to win the Chicago Catholic League White Division Championship. Fenwick then won its first four playoff games (outscoring Kaneland 50-14, Rockford Boylan 24-14, Nazareth Academy 28-17 and Sycamore 17-6) to advance to the Class 5A State Championship game against Kankakee Senior High School on November 27! This marks the fourth team — joining players from 1981, 1995 and 2016 — to go to the IHSA semis in Fenwick history and the *first* to go to the big dance! GO FRIARS!!



NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

Congratulations to the first great group of Fenwick student-athletes to sign National Letters of Intent on November 10 (from left): **Amanda Hansen** – Adelphi (New York), basketball; **Dominic Corgiat** – Tarleton State (Texas), baseball; **Lindsey Drumm** - Dartmouth, swimming; and **Michael Flynn** - Notre Dame, swimming. The Class of '22 will have a lot more to come as the year goes on!



State Honors

In the girls' XC competition, juniors **Ava Martinez** (River Forest, IL) and **Bella Daley** (Oak Park, IL) above, qualified for State. Bella also earned All-Sectional and Illinois ALL STATE honors!

Fall Sports Recap Video

See the highlights from the fall season in this [video from Fall Sports Recognition Night](#) on November 15.

CLASS NOTES

FIVE FOREVER FRIARS

JOHN EDER '34 (1917-2011) was the oldest of seven boys: brothers **Frank '46**, **Charlie '49** and **George '51** also attended Fenwick. An Army Air Corps captain during WWII, John then spent 40 years in the safety-equipment industry. Four of his nephews also are FHS graduates.



Eder

Late alumnus **BILL MUSHAM '34** participated in football, French Club and was valedictorian. He earned an engineering degree (Purdue University) and a graduate business degree (from Harvard) before becoming president and CEO of Imperial Eastman/ITE Imperial. **See all of the Fenwick Hall of Fame Inductees.**

BERNIE HANLEY '50 was the father of nine children, a Fenwick Life Trustee and an investment broker with Morgan Stanley. Mr. Hanley studied at Regis College (Colorado), then trained to be a U.S. Navy pilot but was wounded in a training crash. He passed away in 2002 at age 69.

Late alumnus and 2004 Hall of Fame inductee **ERNEST WATTS, JR. '55** was an executive with Binks Manufacturing, a paint-sprayer firm started by his grandfather. Ernie's son, **COLIN '88**, also graduated from Fenwick as did his grandson, **IAN WATTS '05**.

MIKE CHALIFOUX '65 attended University of Notre Dame, then enjoyed a long financial career, including more than 20 years at Circuit City Stores. Mike founded Circuit City's credit division, retiring in 2003 as senior VP/CFO. He passed away in 2014 at age 67.



Chalifoux

GERALD McDERMOTT '50 has published his sixth book, *Essays on Christianity* (available electronically and soft cover). After retiring from Texas Instruments in 1991, Jerry turned to photo journalism and continues to write for some websites.

Friar golfer and swimmer **JAMES KELLY '57** started the swimming program at Marmion Academy (Aurora, IL) in 1967. Mr. Kelly, who now resides in central Florida, retired as the private school's dean of students and is in the Cadets' Hall of Fame!

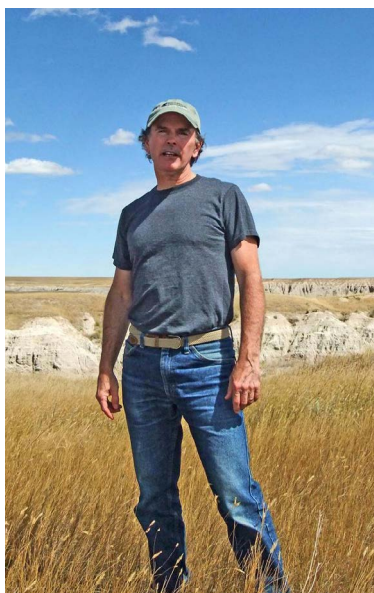
GEORGE SPELLMIRE '66 continues his law practice at Spellmire Bruck LLP, Chicago. Mr. Spellmire (DePaul JD, Ohio State BA) is a leading professional liability litigation attorney specializing in accountant/legal/financial malpractice and insurance coverage.



Spellmire



TIM FEIGH '70, during nearly 25 years as a high-school athletic administrator, was the athletic director at York High School (Elmhurst, IL), Morton HS (Berwyn) and Hinsdale South. Tim, who retired to the Tampa Bay area, was a 2015 inductee into the Illinois Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame.



Oak Parker **JOHN GAWNE '70** is an artist of the American West. He graduated from Notre Dame with a degree in accounting and worked as an accountant, then as a stockbroker at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange: **Learn more about the artist and see some of his work online.**



U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander (ret.) and attorney **BILL JANIS '80** and wife, Rose Ann, discovered that a Pensacola, FL street is named after father and son admirals. For 10 years, Bill was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates. **Read the story online.**



Walsh

Fenwick Dad and alumnus **TIMOTHY WALSH, DDS '71** is one of the top periodontists in the United States! He opened his dental practice (Berwyn & Westmont, IL) in 1981 and also founded our school's girls golf and lacrosse teams; children **SARAH '97, PATRICK '00, CASEY '01** and **KIT '08** all are Friars.

ERNE STETENFELD '75 is CEO and executive director of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Madison, WI, where he has served for nine years. He has a BA from Northwestern University (Evanston, IL) and a master's degree in journalism/mass communication from Drake University (Des Moines, Iowa).



Stetenfeld



Alumni brothers **BOB '78** (left) and **STEPHEN DI SILVESTRO '81** have worked together since 1991. "We've been located at 5231 N. Harlem since '98," Stephen reports. In the early 1960s, their father first opened his Di Silvestro & Associates law office at 3800 N. Austin.

Which 1980s alumni remember "old" Fenwick Spanish Teacher Bob Sochowski? These guys do! **CHARLES COZZANI '84, ANIL D'SOUZA '87** and **JOHN FINAN '87** last summer celebrated the retirement of Mr. S., who spent 30 years as a bilingual guidance counselor for at-risk kids at Wheeling High School.

1998 Golden Apple finalist **JOE BUCOLO '86** has been teaching English at Highland Park (IL) High School since 1994. Mr. Bucolo, who has his BA from Notre Dame and a JD from Loyola's School of Law, to date has published three articles in the *English Journal*.



Bucolo

CARL BERGETZ '87, legal chief at Rush Health System, is recognized as a 2021 Notable General Counsel by *Crain's Chicago Business*! Carl did his undergrad studies at Stanford and is a graduate of University of Illinois College of Law. **Read the Q&A online.**



Bergetz



ANIL D'SOUZA '87, the CEO of pharmaceutical firm Tolmar, Inc. (Lincolnshire, IL), was featured in a June issue of *Crain's Chicago Business*. **Read the article online.**

PAT WILSON '87 handles capital-market transactions for commercial real-estate firm Avison Young in the Chicago area. He focuses on medical office buildings and healthcare clients, advising on site selection, consolidations, tax incentives and other matters.



Wilson



Polston

ROB POLSTON '91, operating partner at Chicago private-equity firm Sterling Partners, earned a BA (economics) from Northwestern University and MBA (finance and accounting) from the University of Chicago's Booth School. Previously, the father of multiple Friars led online educator Laureate France: **Read more online about Rob.**

TODD DAVIS '93 is senior VP and client service director at Ziegler Capital Management in the greater Chicago area — a position he has held for nine years. Todd has an MBA from DePaul University and B.A. in business from Loyola University-Chicago.



Davis



FRANK SOMMARIO, JR. '93, a partner at Chicago law firm Romanucci & Blandin, LLC, is the new Executive Vice President of the National Italian American Bar Association. Frank (left) is shown with NIABA President Frank Donnarumma. **Read more online.**

Biotech professional **AMAL TING '96** is associate director of Program Management Drug Development and Commercialization at Vertex Pharmaceuticals in the Boston area. She has a B.A. in biology from the University of Chicago and a PhD. In organic chemistry from Boston University.



Ting

Based in Los Angeles, **PATRICK BREMER '97** in July launched his new brand of Bremoir "Art Deco" watches. The debut Lexington model is inspired by Walter Chrysler and his eponymous building in New York City. **Check out the watches here.**

LEAH PIETRUSIAK '97 reports that she is back in Chicago since the pandemic and flies "to Los Angeles for work." The writer/producer has written *Chicago Reader* stories and is working on a new show for the National Geographic WILD TV network. **Learn more online about Leah.**





BRINA SPLINGAIRE '05 started a new job last spring as engineering sales manager at HVAC manufacturing representative Brucker Co. (Elk Grove Village, IL). The Purdue and UIUC (MBA) grad also still drives drag-race cars ... Vroom! [Read more about Brina's racing.](#)

ADAM DELL '00 is a project executive at Google LLC in Mountain View, CA, where he focuses on the real-estate and construction sectors. After earning a mechanical engineering B.S. at Notre Dame, Adam was a project manager at Turner Construction (Chicago), then at Stanford University.

NEIL DWYER '00 has been senior operations/transportation director of Camden City School District in New Jersey since 2016. He studied communications at the University of Missouri (Columbia) and received his M.Ed. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.



Dwyer



DOMINIQUE FORTE BYRNES '01 became the first language coach at District 401 (Elmwood Park, IL) last year. Previously, Mrs. Byrnes served as a classroom teacher at John Mills Elementary School for 15 years. [Read more about Dominique.](#)



Puccinelli

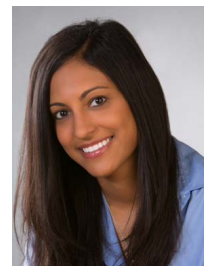
RYAN PUCCINELLI '00 is owner and chief culture officer of office-products firm IQ Total Source and CEO of IQ Franchise Group. Based in Phoenix, the entrepreneur holds a finance degree from the University of Illinois and "helps businesses [to] rethink the status quo," he says.

CARMEN FORTE, JR. '01 is a partner at Chicago-area law firm Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins. He counsels municipalities, school districts, libraries, corporate and non-profit clients. Carmen earned a political-science B.A. from Notre Dame and J.D. from John Marshall Law School.



Forte

JESSICA FUENTES BURCHETT '05 was a member of the Fenwick soccer team that finished fourth in Illinois in 2004. Jess earned doctorate of physical therapy degree from Marquette University in 2011 and became owner/director of the Orland Park, IL Team Rehab Clinic in 2016.



Burchett



JOSEPH NIERZWICKI '02 married Krystina Andreoli on May 8, 2021, in Lake Geneva, WI. Dr. Nierzwicki is a dentist with Grand Dental in Franklin Park, IL. He graduated from Loyola University - Chicago with a bachelor's degree in biology, then from Creighton University's School of Dentistry (Omaha). His bride is employed as a music educator at Wilmette Junior High School and as an adjunct professor at DePaul University, her college alma mater. The newlyweds reside in Chicago.



DR. MARIA LATZ '04 married Ian Perez on Saturday, November 13. Dr. Latz's parents, Michele and **PETER LATZ '79**, hosted an intimate gathering to celebrate the union at River Forest Country Club (Elmhurst, IL). Ian is a tax accountant and Maria is a physician, currently completing fellowship training in Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. The couple will celebrate with a honeymoon in Paris!



JEN DELGADO ROCHE '05 and **KEVIN ROCHE '05** (left), who teaches math at Fenwick, were surprised on August 29 by the arrival of tiny Grace Helen Roche, who came into the world two months earlier than expected. After a trying 68 days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Rush University Medical Center (Chicago), baby Grace finally came home on November 4. The Roche family appreciates all the prayers from their fellow Friars!

MITCH MOSTARDI '06, now based in Milwaukee, is a regional sales manager for audiology equipment supplier e3 Diagnostics. He is a University of Wisconsin-Madison graduate.



Mostardi

The sport of golf has “ways to go” for diversity, **ROGER STEELE '06** told *Golf Today* ([watch the video here](#)). Roger, who founded HIPE Media two years ago in Los Angeles, also was featured in a June '21 *Golf Digest* piece. [Read the article online.](#)



Caroline and **CONOR WELDON '06** welcomed George Butler Weldon into the world on October 12. George is the grandson of Fenwick alumnus **BILL WELDON '71**.

GRACE LILEK DAVID '08 is a Learning Resource Coordinator at Fenwick, where she is in her sixth school year as a Friar educator. [Read a Q&A with Grace.](#)



Ophthalmologist **Dr. MARTIN MULLEN '08** is back from Boston and practicing at the Wheaton Eye Clinic. Dr. Mullen did his under-graduate studies at the University of Chicago and then attended Loyola's Stritch School of Medicine.



Mullen



Matuszewski

KENNETH MATUSZEWSKI '09 is recognized by the American Bar Association as a 2021 “Top 40 Young Lawyer.” Kenny is an intellectual-property associate in the Chicago office of law firm of Goldberg Segalla LLP. [Read the write-up.](#)

CASEY O'LAUGHLIN '17 (Glen Ellyn, IL) earned a Master's degree in management studies from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management this past June. Casey completed his under-graduate studies at NU in 2020 while playing Big Ten baseball.



Young alumnus and high-honors student

RYAN FORTUNA '20 (Chicago) in August became a certified pilot! Ryan has begun training for commercial flights this fall and is in his sophomore year at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL.

Thank you for a hugely successful event!

6 9 T H A N N U A L
Blackfriars
G A L A

2 0 2 1 H O N O R E E S

Lumen Tranquillum

The Class of 1996

Fenwick High School's First Coed Class

Hall of Fame

Mr. Dennis J. Marani '72

Mr. Ronald A. Van De Walle '60

Hosted by the Families of

Mr. Frank '72 and Mrs. Catherine Moroni

Mr. Walter '60 and Mrs. Jane Morrissey

Sponsors and Donors

— Platinum Level —

Mr. Chuck '72 and Mrs. Terry Wolande

— Gold Level —

Mr. Raymond Bandziulis '76

Mr. Michael and Mrs. Maureen Barry

Mr. Richard and Ms. Lisa Cederoth

Mr. Robert Jr. '70 and Mrs. Loretta Cooney

Mr. Thomas Herbstritt, Jr.

Mr. Jay '76 and Mrs. Jill Javors

Mr. Donald '53 and Mrs. Joan Leone

Mr. Noel and Mrs. Michele Moore

Mr. Walter '60 and Mrs. Jane Morrissey

— Silver Level —

Mr. Michael '83 and Mrs. JoAnne Androwich
CIBC Bank

Mr. William Jr. '60 and Mrs. Jean Divane

Mr. Terry '63 and Mrs. Mary Gallagher

Mr. John Jr. '76 and Mrs. Kathleen Regan

Mr. Peter and Mrs. Deborah Romero

Mr. John Jr. and Mrs. Lacey Sikora

— Bronze Level —

Mr. John Barron '76

Clare Holdings — Euclid Beverage

Mr. John III and Mrs. Colleen Horrigan

Mr. Brian '77 and Mrs. Caroline Joss

Mr. William '72 and Mrs. Marta Krug

Mr. Jim '68 and Mrs. Maureen Marino

Mr. Peter and Mrs. Mary Mavrogenes

Ms. Jan Pyrce and Mr. Gary Kagan

— Friar Level —

Hon. Catherine Adduci

Anonymous

Mr. Denio '75 and Mrs. Therese Bolzan

Mr. Thomas '76 and Mrs. Tracy Brooker

Mr. Michael '77 and Mrs. Terri Flynn

Mr. Anthony '76 and Mrs. Coleen Garippo

Mr. Jon and Mrs. Kara Keller

Mr. Walter and Mrs. Veronica Kosch

Mr. David and Mrs. JoAnn Lilek

Mr. John '74 and Mrs. Kathleen Nerger

Mr. Troy and Mrs. Megan Phillips

Mr. Philip and Mrs. Lysa Saran

Mr. Michael and Mrs. Kimberly Trucco

— Special Donors —

Mr. David and Mrs. Tracey Gau

Mr. Brian and Mrs. Elizabeth Saunders

SavWay Fine Wines and Spirits

fenwickfriars.com/blackfriarsgala

IN MEMORIAM

From May 1, 2021–November 15, 2021

ALUMNI

Class of 1942
Michael Kerwin

Class of 1944
John Foley, S.J.

Class of 1946
John Stroth

Class of 1949
John Considine
Daniel James
James Shanahan

Class of 1951
Ralph Schuler
Patrick Scott

Class of 1952
Patrick Doran
Kenneth MacKenzie

Class of 1953
Robert Carbon
H. Paul Schlacks

Class of 1954
Charles McEnery

Class of 1955
Robert Jastrab

Class of 1956
Frank Fitzgerald

Class of 1957
John Ferguson

Class of 1958
C. Rodger Brown
Dennis O'Leary
John Ward

Class of 1959
John Clark
John Fischer
Graham McClean

Class of 1960
Patrick Cunningham
John Ruane, Jr.
Thomas Skoglund

Class of 1961
Raymond Barnett
James Blattner
Stephen Tully

Class of 1962
David Fay

Class of 1964
Roger French
Robert Ptak
Robert Repta

Class of 1965
Michael Stamm
George Wendt

Class of 1966
Mark Lambert

Class of 1967
John Cronin III
Martin Grill, Sr.

Class of 1971
Terry Kakida

Class of 1972
Michael Gallagher

Class of 1974
Anthony Christofaro
Paul Weldon

Class of 1977
Dennis Cusack

Class of 1978
William Duchon

Class of 1983
William Hurley

Class of 1992
Douglas Kurek

Class of 2005
James Madrid

Class of 2013
Kyle Johnson

Class of 2015
Michael Beaudin
Ryan Masi

NON-ALUMNI MEMBERS OF THE FENWICK FAMILY

Robert Arscott
Former Faculty

James Bailey
Past Parent and Grandparent

Maureen Barron
Past Parent

Catherine Frankel Duff
Grandparent

Ed Galvin
*Former Coach and Athletic
Director*

John Gambro, O.P.
Former Faculty

Fred Krehbiel
Friend

David Kulhanek
Past Parent

Patricia Darley Long
Past Parent and Grandparent

Jeff McCoy
Past Parent

Anthony Mourek
Past Parent

Maureen Murray O'Bryan
Past Parent and Grandparent

Gerrie Picciottie
Past Parent

Michael Ramage
Current Parent

Therese Rigali
Past Parent

Marianne Schnabel
Former Faculty

Richard Sova
Parent of Staff Member

Ronald Stuart
Former Faculty

Rosemary White
*Past Parent, Grandparent and
Great Grandparent*

Martin Woerter
Past Parent

To notify Fenwick of members of the Fenwick community who have passed away,
please contact Peter Durkin '03, Director of Alumni Relations,
at pdurkin@fenwickfriars.com, 708-948-0323.

ON FEBRUARY 24th JOIN FENWICK AND

RAISE THE SHIELD

FENWICK HIGH SCHOOL'S 6TH ANNUAL DAY OF GIVING

WWW.FENWICKFRIARS.COM/RAISETHESHIELD

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, December 17
**WRESTLING PROGRAM
40TH ANNIVERSARY**

Sunday, February 6
FENWICK WINTER CARNIVAL

Thursday, February 24
**RAISE THE SHIELD —
DAY OF GIVING**

Friday, March 18
**WHITE SOX VS. CUBS
SPRING TRAINING GAME IN
GLENDALE, ARIZONA**

Sunday, April 3
**GRADUATES AND
GRANDPARENTS' DAY**

Friday, June 10
53RD ANNUAL FRIAR CLASSIC

Friday, June 24
**GOLDEN FRIARS
MASS & LUNCHEON**

Friday, September 29
**PASS THE TORCH GOLF
OUTING**

Sunday, October 30
MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Get more information and upcoming events at fenwickfriars.com



Follow Fenwick on Twitter [@fenwickfriars](https://twitter.com/fenwickfriars), Facebook facebook.com/FenwickHighSchool and Instagram instagram.com/fenwickfriars/