

# St. Norbert

College Magazine | Spring 2016



## Waste not

Dining Services  
signs up for the  
Clean Plate Club

## In Print

Vol. 48, No.1, Spring 2016



### Page 7

Student-led research offered through the new Center for Business & Economic Analysis is already having a regional impact. "We don't need to hold hands with these students because they're that good," says center co-director **Jamie O'Brien** (Business Administration).



### Page 10

"I offer two types of office hours: the traditional kind, where I leave my door open ... And a very different kind, where students or I can be anywhere and use any device. (Yes, I do hold office hours on my phone)." – **Ty Meidl** (Teacher Education)



### Page 13

This copper and cast-iron beauty from 1901 is just one among the college's extraordinary collection of vintage cash registers.

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## Cover Story



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#### Waste Not, Want Not

Once dinner is done, the counters wiped down and clean dishes put away, it's time to take out the trash. For the college's kitchen staff, that means a short trip to the compactor and a remarkably light load. Along with the rest of the Dining Services team, they're intent on making sure the college, after each meal, sends barely one garbage bagful of food waste to the landfill.

**On our cover:** Minimizing food waste is of significant moral, environmental and economic concern to an institution like St. Norbert College that serves up 2,000-plus meals every day.



### Page 16

#### Beyond the Imagination

A ground-breaking class first offered at St. Norbert in the early 1970s had to face down a certain scholarly skepticism. In fact, the class – still taught today – helped legitimize the academic study of two fascinating genres.

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#### Minority Vote

More than half a century ago, John F. Kennedy became the first – and so far the only – Catholic president in American history. This landmark election didn't just welcome in the first Catholic president, says **Larry McAndrews** (History, Emeritus). It introduced a whole new era of influence.



## Online

A sampling of related content available at [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine).



**In springtime:** On a campus that doubles as an arboretum, spring means a fresh green cover of leaves overhead, blossom everywhere (**page 4**), and all the exuberance the out-of-doors season has to offer.



**In SyNC:** CBEA research by **Nicole Kozlovsky '16** for the Green Bay Botanical Gardens (**page 7**) was the subject of an article in the first issue of a new publication connecting regional business interests with the college.



**In print:** A think-piece in America Magazine by **Maggie McConnaha '18** (**page 8**), grew out of a St. Norbert course that looked at the intersection of faith, art, beauty and community.



**In retrospect:** A new book by **Jim Van Straten '55** is drawn from 352 letters he wrote to his wife while deployed in Vietnam, 1966-67 (**page 11**). "A Different Face of War: Memories of a Medical Service Corps Officer in Vietnam" includes an encounter with **Maj. Joe Lutz '55** in Saigon.



**In time:** It was a better-than-half-court shot so desperate and inspired that it made ESPN SportsCenter's Top 10 (**page 12**).



**In the heat of debate:** A Washington, D.C., internship (**page 25**) put **Katelyn Van Buskirk '17** in the middle of the action as CNN prepared to cover December's Republican debate in Las Vegas.



**In literary circles:** Liam Callanan, author of "The Cloud Atlas," says a new novel by **Scott Winkler '93** (**page 31**) "feels lived and lived in, which is the highest compliment I can give a novel."



**Insider story:** Ed Policy, vice president and general counsel for the Green Bay Packers, talks professional football and more (**page 35**) with **Kevin Quinn** (Schneider School).

Keep an eye open throughout this edition for more links to content on the web. Follow us on your favorite social media channel, too. Just search for **St. Norbert College**.

[snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)





**Blossom forth**

No one relishes the promise of spring more than those who have endured a Wisconsin winter. And no better a place to soak in all the loveliness of our campus than the Shakespeare Garden at the heart of it all.



More images of spring at [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

## The view in the crystal ball



St. Norbert College is proud to share that **President Tom Kunkel** was the unanimous choice in judging for the 2015 Council for Advancement and Support of Education District V Chief Executive Leadership Award. The annual award, announced in December to the association's 383-institution membership, recognizes a chief executive who articulates a compelling vision for the institution and inspires others to that vision; establishes a positive image for the institution while leading it to higher levels of success; increases the institution's stature in the community; encourages innovation and risk-taking among employees; and actively supports all aspects of institutional advancement.

The other day my colleague Phil Oswald gathered his team in College Advancement for a day devoted to planning, and he asked me to come by to share whatever I was seeing in my crystal ball for St. Norbert College and higher education in general. If I welcomed the invitation, I was rather less enthusiastic about being assigned what Phil described as the "highly coveted post-lunch slot." How might I fend off the dreaded 1:30 p.m. stupor that descends on any group of conferees like an ether cloud? Then I had a brainstorm.

What if I developed a taser app for my cell phone? How useful would *that* be! Doze off on *me*, will you – ZZZAP!!! So satisfying – and effective!

I liked the idea so much, in fact, that in my mind's eye I was already pitching my iTaser on "Shark Tank" (a pro-taser bunch if ever I saw one!). Yet suddenly here's Phil, snapping me out of my reverie – good thing for you, Phil Oswald, that this taser app isn't to beta stage yet! – and insisting I get on with things. All right, all right ... Here we go.

We are in the Great Shaking: While I was still in my journalistic short pants, I learned that context is crucial to understanding anything of consequence, so I start with my widest lens. Through that I see an America experiencing its most seismic shifts since the sixties. What a scary coming-together of forces: our socioeconomic cleaving into the haves and have-nots, and the related anxieties of the shrinking middle class; the escalating frustrations and tensions of many non-whites, and the simultaneous fear of many whites over a society they see rapidly becoming minority-majority; a lurching, globally interconnected economy whose only predictable element is volatility; the relentless march of disruptive technologies and social media; terrorism, the ugly, pandering politics of fear and class warfare. For many Americans this all adds up to disorientation and dread – the feeling, as Yeats observed of a similarly convulsive time, that "things fall apart; the centre cannot hold."

Higher education is not immune: Study a college president these days and you may well detect some disorientation there too, as our own industry pitches and rolls. Most of our institutions are enrollment-

dependent, but there's a shrinking pool of traditional-age students – and a growing list of options available to them, from fine technical and community colleges to entirely online degree paths. Tuitions, appropriately, are under intense scrutiny and pressure as student debt mounts. The idea of "free" college continues to gain traction. Beyond that, once we *do* get students, the expectations keep piling up as to what we should be doing with them: preparing them for (and placing them into) lucrative careers; making sure they can read, write, grasp philosophy (and history and economics and ...); helping them with their medications; teaching them a second language; teaching them tolerance; teaching them no means no. Facing such escalating pressures, private colleges already operating at the margin are buckling. With each year, more and more will simply disappear. Takeaway? In such an environment of uncertainty, it's imperative that a college have a strong sense of itself and its mission. It must know what it does well, and then work constantly to do that better yet.

St. Norbert is still building, and upon a strong foundation: We are fortunate in so many ways. Our college's unique Norbertine mission hasn't changed in 118 years. We are in the strongest financial and academic positions in our history. We have a stellar, and growing, reputation. We live on a beautiful and modern campus. We graduate our students. And, at least by competitive standards, we remain quite affordable.

There are no guarantees: None of the aforementioned advantages inoculate us from the shaking all around us. Thus we continue to scour our costs even as we raise more financial aid, all in trying to keep the SNC experience within reach of any student who qualifies for it. That, in turn, will secure our enrollment base – always job one – but "enrollment" must go beyond a raw number to reflect a diverse body that represents a variety of life experiences. And we must be flexible and smart, teaching in ways rooted in the best of our traditions while embracing the best of modern innovation.

That – to *all* of us who share in the commitment to advance St. Norbert College – that is how I see our challenge.

### CBEA

The Center for Business & Economic Analysis has three main focuses: student-led research projects, community presentations and white papers on various topics. The initiative came into being as co-directors **Jamie O'Brien** (Business Administration) and **Marc Schaffer** (Economics) were discussing project work (in O'Brien's classes) and community presentations (in Schaffer's). Their vision for a center, to be housed within the Schneider School of Business & Economics, grew with the support of college administration and staff.

"The whole point of a university is to solve problems," O'Brien says. "We did start with a strategic plan but we're already in year five of that, and we're only three semesters in to this! If you put good students on to things, then things happen. We don't need to hold hands with these students because they're that good."



## Student research impacts region

Students are leading studies that are making a significant impact in northeast Wisconsin, through work undertaken by the new Center for Business & Economics Analysis (CBEA) at St. Norbert.

The new center gives students an opportunity to use what they've learned in the classroom to help develop solutions for community problems and issues, at the same time strengthening the ties between the college and the regional business community.

"It's been wonderful to be a part of. I'm using what I've learned to work on a real-world issue and also gaining new skills along the way," says **Brad Lichtfuss '16** (left). "At the end of the day, I feel like I'm giving back." Lichtfuss studied areas facing a shortage of teachers, such as inner city and rural schools, looking at possible ways they could attract and retain educators. Like all the projects at the CBEA, his results were shared with community leaders.

Students are selected by professors to participate. They can earn an independent study credit for their efforts but, to **Erika Rettler '16** (center), the real attraction was gaining real-world experience before leaving college.

"The CBEA gives you life skills that you

don't get in the classroom. It's student-led, and you see your work coming to life," she says. "What you are doing is having an impact on the community – it's not just for a grade. You get to meet a lot of new people and really expand your horizons."

That's something **Nicole Kozlovsky '16** (right) has experienced. Last spring, she worked with a professor on an economic impact study for the Green Bay Botanical Gardens. After seeing the presentation, a representative from the local cerebral palsy center asked if the college could do something similar for them. This time, the project was under the auspices of the CBEA, and it was Kozlovsky herself – not a professor – who took the lead.

"The biggest takeaway was that I learned a lot about myself. I learned I needed stronger presenting skills," says Kozlovsky, who is originally from Green Bay. "I also learned more about leading others and working together as a team."

While Kozlovsky, Rettler and Lichtfuss are all pursuing majors within the Schneider School, O'Brien said the CBEA is open to students of all majors interested in addressing real-life issues.

"We're all about getting skill sets together to solve problems," he says.

### Index-linked

**Erika Rettler '16** grew up in the New North – the 18-county economic development region in northeast Wisconsin – so when she had the opportunity to use her research skills to help develop an innovation index through the CBEA, she jumped at the chance. Rettler researched various economic factors that make a region appealing to entrepreneurs. She then measured those factors in the New North and compared them to other parts of Wisconsin, the state as a whole and then the country. The information gathered will help the New North to develop marketing materials to lure entrepreneurs and start-up businesses to the area.

Rettler says, "I grew up in Seymour so this is my home, and it's been wonderful to find a way to give back."

 CBEA research by **Nicole Kozlovsky '16** for the Green Bay Botanical Gardens was the subject of an article in the first issue of SyNC, a new publication connecting northeast Wisconsin business with St. Norbert College. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

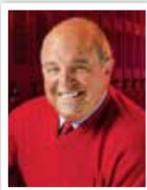
Missionary school



Four young Mormon missionaries who visited the Religion in America class taught by **Karen Park** (Theology & RS) were continuing a tradition begun by Park when she first started the class. "It's so fun, because the missionaries are the exact age of our students," she says. "You can see them relating to one another and easily laughing. But there's also the sense [among the St. Norbert students] that these young people are taking on a lot of responsibility."

The encounter impresses on Park's class the depth of commitment among these peers, she says. It's not hard to find missionaries willing to join the group: "They were thrilled to come. They were so friendly." The visitors were intrigued by student life, too, and one asked questions about pre-professional majors: He was thinking about studying dentistry after his missionary years.

Barry business



Barry Alvarez, director of athletics and former football coach at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will be the keynote speaker at the fourth Sport & Society conference hosted at St. Norbert. This year's event examines the business of college sports. Other speakers will include WNBA All-Star Anna DeForge; Darren Rovell, sports business analyst for ESPN; and Aaron Taylor, college football analyst for CBS Sports.

White Glove Event

St. Norbert's special collections and archives include a remarkable assortment of Norbertine rarities and other historical material. A selection of these treasures went on display Feb. 12 when they were accessible to the sight and touch of visitors ready to don the archivists' white gloves on loan for the afternoon. College archivist **Sally Cubitt** (Mulva Library) says, "I look at one of our books and wonder why it was published, what lies behind the writing, who has read our copy and how it got here ... I find it all fascinating!"



Honored

Of nine students who submitted presentation proposals to the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Annual Conference in November, seven were selected to offer papers. **Colin Dassow '16** won the student poster competition award in the category of Natural Sciences & Mathematics, for his work on cannibalism in largemouth bass.

Granted

The Library of Congress Teaching With Primary Sources Program has awarded a \$19,990 grant to **Mark Bockenbauer** and **Parisa Watson** (Geography), for their proposal, titled "The Library of Congress for Badgers; Maps and Images as Primary Documents for Wisconsin Educators."

The grant will enable Bockenbauer and Watson to conduct a summer 2016 institute for Wisconsin teachers using Library of

Congress digital materials as well as resources from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's world-class collection of maps and other primary documents.

Awarded

**Kelsie George '16**, **Maria Sauer '17**, **Mikaela Wolf '19** and **Krystal Binversie '19** represented St. Norbert College, Oxfam and Knights Against Trafficking at the national IMPACT conference on the civic engagement of college students.

George, who was part of the planning committee for the February conference at the University of Massachusetts, has since been invited to present at the 2016 Notre Dame Student Peace Conference "Members of the Mosaic."

Engaged

**Jim Neuliep** (Communication) is serving as a reviewer for Oxford University Press. He continues to serve on the boards of Communication

Reports, the Journal of Intercultural Communication Research, the International Journal of Intercultural Relations, the Journal of International & Intercultural Communication, and the Encyclopedia of International & Intercultural Communication.

Quoted

The Wall Street Journal sought expert opinion from **Kevin Quinn** (Schneider School) when it weighed in on the St. Louis Rams' "bittersweet" decision to exit the city for a new home in Los Angeles:

"Although city officials and team owners will often tout the economic benefits that accrue to a city, the tallies are typically fanciful, said Kevin Quinn, dean of the business school at St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wis., who focuses on the economics of sports. 'Those studies tend to be completely overblown,' he said. 'The claims that are

made by the leagues are really tenuous at best.'"

Published

An essay by **Maggie McConaha '18** appeared in the Dec. 7 edition of America Magazine, the national Jesuit publication. "People of the Street" reflects on the way that the life of a vibrant thoroughfare can foster relationships and strengthen a healthy community. Two months later, America picked up a piece by **Bridget Burke Ravizza** (Theology & RS) about her work with **Julie Massey** (Campus Ministry) on the everyday witness of Catholic married couples.

**Maggie McConaha's** think-piece grew out of a humanities course she took freshman year that looked at the intersection of faith, art, beauty and community. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



Winter weather is no deterrent to the fashion-forward feet of St. Norbert College. In fact, the January start to the spring semester is good enough reason for Green Knights to flash their preferred taste in seasonal footwear. Zipped or laced, buckled or bowed: Our students let their boots do the talking as they do the walking.



## Yes, I hold office hours on my phone

It's 10:30 p.m. and the house is quiet for the night. But back on campus one of my students is just getting started. She's in the library (and in the corner of my computer screen), and has questions on how to reframe the objective for her lesson plan, due the following evening.

We chat back and forth for about five minutes. Then, I ask her to share her screen. I add a few notes directly into her lesson plan; I ask if she has any other questions. My chat notification chimes again. "Dr. Meidl, are you still having office hours?"

This time it's four of my education students, who are working together around one of the large computer screens in the Mulva innovation studio. I watch people pass by behind them with bewildered looks as the women continue to ask questions, seeking clarification on their individual lesson plans. I note the time – it's midnight

already. I remind the group that I need to get some rest, and that I will see them in class the following day.

My "virtual office hour" habit first began when, prior to leaving for a conference, I had let students know that I would be online from 9-11 p.m. I told them to message me if they had any questions. I sat in my hotel room at the prescribed time, assuming students would ignore my invitation. Until, *bing!* (9:35 p.m.):

**Student A:** Dr. M, are you still on?

**Dr. Meidl:** Yup, how can I help?

*Bing!* (9:46 p.m.)

**Student B:** Dr. M, here is the link to my draft ... Can we still chat with you?

**Dr. M:** Yup, I am still here. What is your question?

The bings continued briskly until 11 p.m. By that time, I'd realized that I typed faster than I thought, and that I could multitask, chatting with multiple students at one time. I was not tied to my office for "office" hours; and my students were in the comfort of their personal spaces, using their phones or other devices.

Office hours are a timeless tradition. Each week, professors offer several hours in the day during which we are readily available to students. We hope for questions from them that will invite us into their profound process of discerning their

life choices – and that does happen from time to time. But mostly, instead, they ask how can they do better on the next test or assignment.

After my virtual hours, I find I've not felt deflated by the pragmatism of students and their desire to earn the proverbial "A." Instead, I feel satisfied that I've been supporting them in the midst of their work. Technology has made it easier for students to reach out to us. We value student-faculty relationships and pride ourselves on being available to students. When students have questions about their courses or need to request a letter of recommendation, they need not wait until office hours; they just send an email. In my syllabus, I outlined a 72-hour response time to student email – hoping, in fact, to encourage more students to connect with me face-to-face during my office hours. It didn't work: It just meant that students with questions about an assignment were often left in 72-hour limbo.

I felt there had to be a better way to engage students and support them, particularly when higher-stakes assignments were due. I knew I needed to do something differently.

Now, I offer two types of office hours: the traditional kind, where I leave my door open in anticipation of a thoughtful conversation about graduate school or the vast opportunities the future holds. And a very different kind, where students or I can be anywhere and use any device. (Yes, I do hold office hours on my phone). I have found that students appreciate a chance to meet with their professor while they are actively working on an assignment. The virtual option means flexibility for me as well as for my students. They can reach me whether I am off or on campus. I have had useful conversations when I was in California at a conference or when my student was at her home in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Neither of us is tied down to one place for the encounter and yet I can meet their needs just as well – perhaps even better. Like many of our students, I must admit that I do my own best work between 10 p.m. and 1 a.m.

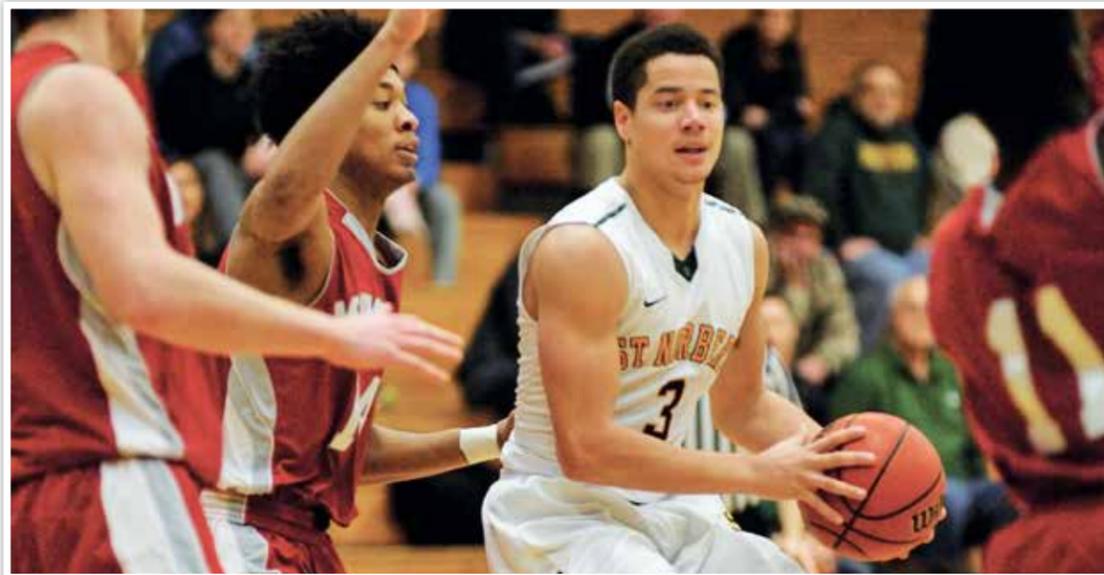
**Tynisha Meidl is associate professor of education and co-chair of the education department. Her primary research interest includes culturally relevant literacy instruction in culturally and linguistically diverse classrooms.**



When students in the Contemporary Photographic Strategies course taught by **Brandon Bauer** (Art) were drawn to recreations of historic photos, it prompted a search in the college archives for an image that they themselves could recreate. The students discovered an image [inset] of campus peace demonstrations during the Vietnam War and determined that it was probably taken in November 1969 (based on how the student protesters were dressed; on the TV showing President Nixon speaking; and on signs bearing the "Bring the War Home" slogan – first used the previous month.)

Why recreate the photo instead of just studying it? It's the difference between learning by looking and "learning from what was happening by actually putting the work in to learn from it," says **Dayna Seymour '16**. And **Becky Ratajczyk '17** adds that, through recreating the photo, they had the chance to teach a piece of school history to others.

A new book by **Jim Van Straten '55** is drawn from 352 letters he wrote to his wife while deployed in Vietnam. Enjoy excerpts from "A Different Face of War," including an encounter with **Maj. Joe Lutz '55** in Saigon. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



Terrence Garner '17 goes up for a shot against Monmouth. The junior guard has never experienced a conference loss as a Green Knight.

## Remarkable twin seasons for hoops

The last time the St. Norbert men's basketball team lost a Midwest Conference (MWC) game, **Terrence Garner '17** had just poured in 25 points for Oak Creek High School in a victory over Racine Horlick; **Ben Bobinski '17** was adding to his all-time scoring record at Green Bay's Notre Dame Academy; and **D.J. DeValk '18** was the sixth man for the state-bound Little Chute Mustangs. The tri-captains and no other current Green Knights were on the roster when St. Norbert fell 104-99 in overtime, Feb. 9, 2013, at Grinnell College.

Since then, the St. Norbert men have won 62 consecutive MWC games, and counting, surpassing the NCAA Division III mark of 61 victories achieved by Wheaton College in the College Conference of Illinois in the late 1950s.

"We have not talked about (the streak) with the team and really, my entire focus has been on this team and this season," says head coach **Gary Grzesk**, who has led St. Norbert to four consecutive conference championships. "I know they are aware of it, but it's not something we've talked about.

"I think some of the culture has been passed down from the older guys and the guys who have graduated," he adds. "Certainly there is a little residual effect that gets passed down year-to-year. Guys who were role players last year have really stepped up into more prominent roles this year."

The numbers support the complete team effort this season. At press time, the Green Knights did

not have an individual player in the top 10 in MWC scoring or rebounding. As a unit, St. Norbert tops the conference in scoring defense, overall rebounding, defensive rebounding and assist-to-turnover ratio. "We are a very unselfish team and that contributes to our success," says Garner. "We don't need a guy to go out and score 30. We have all the pieces. Everybody contributes whether they are playing or not. Guys in practice are helping us get better."

Leading the conference in defense is no surprise. "That is our foundation and our kids know that, especially this year," says Grzesk. "We didn't know all their roles offensively, so we knew early on that we would have to depend on our defense and our rebounding and kind of figure out the offense from there." Garner says, "It starts in practice. Coach preaches defense in practice. We practice hard. Coach pushes us. It's very important that we bring it every day."

The adage that a loss is good for a team is of no interest to the players.

"We would rather learn from a win," says Garner. "We watch film after every game. We break it down as if we lost."

"Sometimes, after a loss, it's easy to bounce back and you know what you are going to get out of those guys," explains Grzesk. "After a win, sometimes the mistakes get brushed under the rug. What we have been trying to do is really teach and learn from every circumstance whether we win or lose."

### Winning women

The men are not the only team on a conference winning streak. The St. Norbert women's basketball team has not lost in MWC play since Jan. 24 of 2015 – and that, itself, was the team's first conference-game loss since January 2014. This season, the squad has outscored conference foes by nearly 20 points per game en route to its third consecutive MWC title. The team finished undefeated in Midwest Conference play for the first time since 1989.

### Four-star

Mid-February, St. Norbert was the only school in Division III to have all four of its winter sports teams – men's and women's basketball, men's and women's hockey – regionally ranked by the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

### Buzzer beater

It was a better-than-half-court shot so desperate and inspired that it made ESPN SportsCenter's Top 10 plays of the night. As the first half of the Dec. 2 men's basketball game against Ripon expired, **Ben Bobinski '17** launched a 65-foot three-pointer that put the Green Knights up 29-27 at the half, for an ultimate 59-57 win. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



### Kerrie Biebel '89

Office Coordinator of Auxiliary Services

Most of the college's collection of vintage cash registers date from 100 years ago or more – from a time when businesses were not afraid to combine beauty and function. Today's world seems much more utilitarian.

The more ornate registers, like this one, may have come from department stores; the plain wooden ones from general stores. ... Every one of them could tell a story. Every time the clerk rang up a sale – ding! – it happened with a kind of flourish.

These machines probably sat on their counters throughout the entire life of those businesses. They come from an era when things were made to last. I like it that our college, too, appreciates where it's come from. I think we appreciate the things we have, in a way that other places may not. It's not our way to tear things down; instead, we look for ways to renovate and improve upon them.

Kerrie Biebel can often be found taking payments herself, in the Campus Card Services office – just down the corridor from the case where the college's collection of vintage cash registers is displayed. This oxidized copper-finish cast-iron beauty dates from 1901. The complete collection was given to the college by George and Ramona Van Asten – parents of Mike Van Asten '75 – who takes up his new role as chair of the college's board of trustees later this year.

FAITH SPEAKS

**Matthew Dougherty** points to an early experience at St. Norbert College as a spiritual renewal and the start of his path to the priesthood. He neglected his faith in high school. "I rediscovered it during my freshman year of college after meeting a couple guys who lived down the hall from me," he explains. "Through their friendship and example, I grew in my faith while in a community context. I was able to talk about my faith openly and honestly with guys I respected. We created an environment where we were able to challenge each other to live up to what Christ was calling us to. This is what attracted me to religious life and especially to an order that valued community living."

Ultimately, the call comes from God, he adds. "God is the source of any vocation. It's up to us to learn to hear his voice and respond accordingly."



Frater Jordan S. Neeck, O.Praem., '11 (center) with Vanden Branden (left) and Sircy.

## Calling a new generation

The Rev. **Matthew Dougherty, O.Praem., '09** was ordained to the priesthood on June 6 of last year. The ordination of **Deacon Brad Vanden Branden, O.Praem., '09** followed in August, and there are more to come. A group of young men – many among them St. Norbert alumni – have answered the call to serve, providing an influx of vocations at St. Norbert Abbey, and its independent daughter abbeys in Pennsylvania and New Mexico.

"With age comes wisdom, but with youth there is vigor and idealism and zeal," says Dougherty, who is currently finishing up his theology studies and assisting with vocations at St. Norbert College. "I think new vocations present religious life with a balance. The wiser guys help keep the younger guys' feet on the ground, while the younger guys allow for a greater vitality and a freshness of perspective."

**Frater Jordan Neeck, O.Praem., '11** describes the growth in vocations as "a testament that religious life is not dead, that young people are still attracted to a way of life which has been around for almost 900 years. It is a testament to the fact that young people are hungry and searching for a deeper meaning to life."

**Frater Zaccary Haney, O.Praem., '13** is a member of Santa Maria de la Vid Abbey, along with **Frater Stephen Gaertner, O.Praem., '98**. Haney says, "In Albuquerque, we are a small community,

one that is excited about growing in the future, but also very attentive to the present. Right now we run a very vibrant young adult ministry from our vocations office. It is exciting to have young people around my age engaged in the life of the abbey. It is life-giving for me and I hope it is for them as well."

What drew these young men to religious life? "I was impressed by the humble service and dedication to ministry that I witnessed in the lives of the Norbertines involved in both the campus and a variety of other ministries," says **Frater Mike Brennan, O.Praem., '99**. "Growing up, my home parish was staffed by Norbertines," explains Vanden Branden. "I remember being impressed that there were many different Norbertines who came and ministered to the parish despite there being an assigned pastor. The diversity of priests really demonstrated that the Norbertines are a community of men who live and minister together." **Frater Patrick LaPacz, O.Praem., '09** says that living in community drew him to religious life. **Frater Jacob Sircy, O.Praem., '09** agrees: "When I was younger, I felt a call to serve in the church. As I got older, I felt that call became more defined in the call to be ordained. It was either diocese or religious life. I knew that I would be healthier if I had community/family around me, so I chose the path of religious life."

In Ministry

Norbertines in formation pursue programs of study but also have the opportunity to serve. **Brad Vanden Branden** is ministering as a deacon at St. Ann Parish in the Archdiocese of Chicago. **Jacob Sircy** assists with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program at a parish in Chicago. **Mike Brennan** has been doing nursing home and hospital ministry in Chicago. When back in Wisconsin, he serves at St. John the Evangelist Homeless Shelter and Notre Dame Academy in Green Bay. **Patrick LaPacz** is in Ministry Practicum at Franciscan St. Margaret Health in Hammond, Ind. He serves in the spiritual care department for eight hours a week. **Jordan Neeck** spent his second year of novitiate at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and School, De Pere, and at Green Bay Correctional Institution. **Zac Haney** serves as caretaker of the Santa Maria de la Vid Abbey church, assisting with preparation for liturgies. He also expects to be placed in a modest part-time RCIA ministry at one of the New Mexico parishes, as well as in liturgical ministries at the abbey's other parishes.

## Supplied for all good work



Olivia Johnson '18 (left) takes a blood-pressure reading at a clinic in Nicaragua.

For **Colton Wiesner '16**, it was a St. Norbert College international TRIPS journey over the 2014-15 winter break that opened his eyes to the issues facing the medically underserved. "The lack of access to basic medical resources conjured in me a drive to serve both my local and global community, and I wanted to recreate that in a new team of participants," he says.

When Wiesner returned to Nicaragua this January, he and his team came with more than willing hands. Their luggage included 40 new stethoscopes and 40 blood-pressure cuffs to donate to the visited clinics. Wiesner, along with co-leader and fellow biology major **Sara Gionet '16**, let powerful impressions from their previous medical-focused TRIPS experiences drive a July 4 fundraiser at Horicon Meats in Gionet's hometown. The team raised more than \$1,400 for the medical supplies. The 10-person student group continued to raise money and collect donations throughout the summer and into the fall. "On the trip, we were able to donate medical supplies totaling over \$5,000 in value to the Nicaraguan people, which was among the top three donations that our affiliate service organization, Panorama Service Expeditions, has ever received," says Wiesner.

Gionet adds, "Here in the United States, doctors have almost unlimited access to supplies to treat their patients

with. But at the free clinics, the doctors and nurses must be creative in order to care for their patients. They do not have a lot of supplies at the clinic and they do not have access to any more."

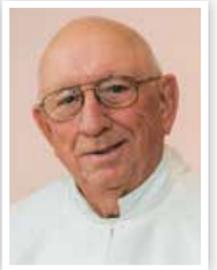
Wiesner recalls that, in his first visit to Nicaragua in January of 2015, he saw only one child-sized blood-pressure cuff in the entire region of clinics – just one cuff for thousands of patients. On this return visit to the Central American nation, the St. Norbert team worked with local doctors in rural clinics to provide much-needed physician support. Daily duties included taking vitals, dispensing medications, vaccinating, fetching supplies – even holding flashlights at the proper angle for pop-up dental clinics.

St. Norbert College will continue to send students to Nicaragua through an International Medical TRIPs initiative developed by the Sturzl Center. And with a recent partnership between the college, the Nicaragua Compact and Panorama Service Expeditions, St. Norbert will continue to make an ongoing impact in the San Jose de Cusmapa region.

"I'm already excited for my next trip, whenever that may be," says **Lenka Craigová '17**, a biology major in the pre-med track. "I really miss the sense of community that was around us. I feel that our work is unfinished, but that each of us has kindled an inner fire to serve and connect with those around us, regardless of language barriers and culture."

The Rev. **Nicholas Nirschl, O.Praem., '51**  
1927-2016

The college mourns the death of the Rev. **Nicholas Nirschl, O.Praem., '51**, who died Jan. 17 at the age of 88. Nirschl served on the faculties of both St. Norbert High School and St. Norbert College, and later discovered his love for the Hispanic culture while on sabbatical in New Mexico. He spent 17 years in Lima, Peru, then returned to the United States to serve at the Norbertine abbey of Santa Maria de la Vid in Albuquerque, N.M. He assisted numerous parishes in the archdiocese of Santa Fe, and became a spiritual director and confessor to abbey visitors.



"Father Nick was a gifted mathematician, a dedicated missionary, a hard-working pastor, but most of all, he was a man faithful to the Norbertine way of life," says the **Rt. Rev. Joel Garner, O.Praem., '62**, who lived with Nirschl while serving on the faculty of St. Norbert College and then for 20 years at Santa Maria de la Vid Abbey.

**Lynn Griebling** 1945-2016

St. Norbert College says a fond farewell to **Lynn Griebling**, former vocal music instructor, who died Jan. 10 at the age of 70. Griebling will be remembered as a versatile musician and a beloved colleague. During her time at St. Norbert, she taught voice, directed the Concert Choir and was the founding director of the opera theatre workshop. Beyond campus, she was an inspired performer, a dedicated teacher, and a fierce advocate for economic justice



and prison reform. **Michael Rosewall** (Music) remembers, "Her influence was broad, her spirit generous – she will be greatly missed. No voice is so sweet as one lifted in song."

**Suzanne Gross Reed** 1933-2015

The collaboration between two artists, poet **Suzanne Gross Reed** and her husband, musician/pianist **Paul Reed**, ended in this world with Suzanne's death Nov. 22 at the age of 85. While in

residence at St. Norbert College 1963-67, Paul and Suzanne performed numerous recitals that combined their two passions: the spoken word and music.

# Beyond the imagination

By Melanie Radzicki McManus '83

Left to right, Robert Boyer, Ken Zahorski and John Pennington '80

Coincidentally, the requests came simultaneously. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, a cluster of students periodically crowded into the office of **Robert Boyer** (English, Emeritus) to see if he'd teach a class on fantasy literature. During the same period, another handful of students was lobbying **Ken Zahorski** (English, Emeritus) to create a class on science-fiction literature. The requests caught both men by surprise. Back then, fantasy and science fiction were considered lesser genres by the world of academia. Not fit for serious study. A bit silly, even. But whenever students are enthusiastic about a subject, that's quite exciting for a professor. So the two were intrigued.

Colleagues but also friends, their offices right next to one another, the men eventually discovered that students were asking each of them to create a new class. A new class that was related to the other. The more they noodled over the development, the more they thought it would be fun (and interesting and educational) if they team-taught one class covering both genres. Back in the 1970s, team-teaching at the college level was a novel concept. But it was also a time of great academic experimentation. When the duo approached the St. Norbert administration with the idea, they were elated to get the green light.

During the period from conception to offering, Boyer and Zahorski were hard at work. There was virtually no other college or university teaching such a class, so the men had to start from scratch. They began researching and studying a variety of books within the two genres to assemble a quality selection for students to read and study – probably about eight would be good, they thought. J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit" was a given, as was "The Last Unicorn" by Peter S. Beagle, but what else? Perhaps "The Time Machine" by H. G. Wells, or maybe his famous "The War of the Worlds." Or possibly Aldous Huxley's "Brave New World." The men also discussed how, exactly,

to conduct their team-teaching. They'd heard some instructors divided a course, with one teaching the first half and the other the second. But they didn't like that idea. No, they wanted to be in the classroom together. To interact with one another, to create a dynamic learning environment.

When St. Norbert's inaugural Science Fiction & Fantasy class finally debuted in the 1972-73 academic year, it was a hit. Students loved the topics, both of which were undergoing a groundswell of interest at the time, in large part due to the popularity of "The Hobbit." They also gravitated toward the two professors' congenial and comic interactions with one another. Many students knew Boyer was a fan of Chaucer, while Zahorski favored Shakespeare. So whichever instructor held the floor would always try to work in a disparaging remark about the other's favorite author. "The students would just wait for those lines," chuckles Zahorski.

But there were some raised eyebrows among their peers about teaching such a "low-brow" topic. "I never experienced any derision or ridicule directly," says Boyer. "But second-hand, yeah. It was out there."

During the next few years, as the pair became pioneers in helping bring academic respectability to the two genres, they began publishing fantasy literature anthologies, as there were none around at the time for use in the classroom. One student who helped them with three of their anthologies was **John Pennington '80**, now himself a member of the English faculty. Interestingly, Pennington himself never took the Boyer/Zahorski class. But, some 15 years later, he would become the course's instructor when Boyer and Zahorski retired.

The two instructors look back with fondness and pride on the 29 years they team-taught Science Fiction & Fantasy. And who wouldn't? It was one of the longest team-teaching tenures on record. Each instructor taught some 1,000 students alongside a cherished friend and

## Genre-ly speaking

When Bob Boyer and Ken Zahorski began teaching fantasy and science fiction in the 1970s, there was no clear definition for either genre. So they came up with their own explanation, dubbing it "clarification through juxtaposition." "We thought that was such a clever phrase at the time," laughs Zahorski. Today there's still an active debate over how to define fantasy and science fiction. And the Boyer/Zahorski categorizations, summarized below, remain popular.

Both fantasy and science fiction are speculative genres, dealing with future or "other" worlds. Here's where they differ.

**Fantasy:** Often offers no explanation for its world; its world is a given. Or explains its world via magic or the supernatural. Examples include fairy tales and myths ("high fantasy") and gothic and satiric pieces ("low fantasy").

**Science fiction:** More practical and relevant stories than fantasy; explains using plausible or seemingly plausible science or pseudo-science, based in the future. More likely to examine larger good-vs.-evil issues. Typically more pessimistic than fantasy. Focal points are often space and time voyages, future predictions, remarkable inventions, social science fiction, inner space exploration, and ultimate meaning.

*The two instructors look back with fondness and pride on the 29 years they team-taught Science Fiction & Fantasy. And who wouldn't? It was one of the longest team-teaching tenures on record. Each instructor taught some 1,000 students alongside a cherished friend and esteemed colleague.*

esteemed colleague. ("As Ken is fond to say, we never had a major disagreement," says Boyer. "We just had a lot of fun.") By doing such trendsetting work, they both were able to interact with famous writers – Boyer met J.R.R. Tolkien, Zahorski spent time with Peter Beagle. They ended up publishing six anthologies of fantasy literature, one anthology containing critical essays on fantasy literature and two book-length reference works on fantasy authors. And they were instrumental in helping the science fiction and fantasy genres gain more academic credibility.

Their experience was also beneficial to their professional development. "We learned from one another," says Zahorski. "We'd talk on a nearly daily basis about how we'd tackle certain things. We met to determine every grade in every course. We critiqued each other's writings. We discussed pedagogical techniques. What a perfect way to become better teachers and scholars. We were blessed."

After both men retired, there was a one-year gap (2005-06) when the course was not offered. Then Pennington stepped in: a development Boyer says was exceptional. "[Having the class move] into the new generation is maybe the most significant dimension of the experience,"

he says.

While Pennington's roots in the program stretch back nearly as far as Boyer's and Zahorski's, he's since made the program his own, introducing some new authors popular in the 21st century and taking a fresh look at the two genres, which have undergone explosive growth over the past 43 years. (Do J.K. Rowling, "The Hunger Games" and "Game of Thrones" ring a bell?) Of course, growth isn't always good, Pennington reminds. "The canon has been exploded. There's a lot of bad science fiction and fantasy out there now, because it's such a big industry."

Still, it's hard not to get excited at the overall advancement in the two genres. In 2014, the National Book Foundation honored science fiction and fantasy writer Ursula Le Guin by bestowing upon her its Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters, which recognizes individuals who have made an exceptional impact on America's literary heritage. It was the first time science-fiction and fantasy literature has been thus acknowledged. And it may be thanks, at least in part, to the innovative work begun in 1972 by St. Norbert's own Bob Boyer and Ken Zahorski. ♣

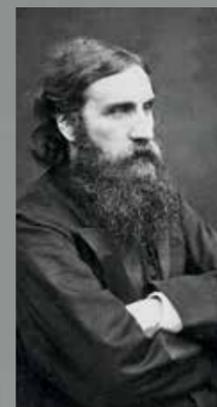
## Professors' picks

Bob Boyer, John Pennington and Ken Zahorski think alike when it comes to rating books. All three say their favorite science-fiction and fantasy titles vary by the day. However, if pressed to name names, all three declare "The Hobbit" tops for fantasy. Here are their sci-fi picks.

**Boyer:** "Brave New World," "Fahrenheit 451," "The Time Machine"

**Pennington:** "A Canticle for Leibowitz"

**Zahorski:** "Brave New World," "Fahrenheit 451," "I, Robot"



George MacDonald

## North Wind

Just as Boyer and Zahorski influenced Pennington's studies and career through their fantasy anthologies, Pennington is now able to offer students a similar opportunity through his editorship of North Wind: A Journal of George MacDonald Studies. MacDonald was a Victorian-era author and poet (and Christian minister) and a mentor of Lewis Carroll. Considered a pioneer in fantasy literature, he is the subject of several of Pennington's own scholarly publications.

Through Pennington's connections

with the George MacDonald Society, he was asked in 2006 to edit North Wind, a peer-reviewed journal (he accepted), and also if St. Norbert would agree to archive the journals (SNC did). Today the influential publication has a new design and cover – the latter courtesy of **Brian Pirman** (Art) – and all of the issues are digitized at [www.snc.edu/northwind](http://www.snc.edu/northwind). The journal will be among the first content uploaded to St. Norbert's new digital commons, planned for launch later this year.

**Gretchen Panzer '12** worked with Pennington on the journal for three of her undergraduate years. She went on to graduate school and now is hoping to snag a job in academic publishing, thanks to her North Wind experience. Panzer says one of the most intriguing aspects about the study of science fiction and fantasy is seeing what societies the authors decide to create, the issues they decide to grapple with and how that can help us understand our own world and what could be.

# Waste not, want not

Once dinner is done, the counters wiped down and clean dishes put away, it's time to take out the trash. For the college's kitchen staff, that means a short trip to the compactor and a remarkably light load.

Even though the 50-strong crew in Ruth's Marketplace has served up its typical daily quota of 2,200-plus breakfasts, lunches and dinners, Dining Services now sends less than a full garbage bag to the landfill after each meal served. New processes in planning, food prep, serving and clean-up are helping the team boost quality, cut costs, and show due respect to the planet and its food supply.

Food management issues are, appropriately, matters of moral and environmental concern. Predictions are that 1 in 7 people in the U.S. will visit a food bank at some time in their lives; it's a tragic statistic that puts a human face on a problem for which all of us must bear some responsibility. And needless food waste is also of significant economic concern to institutions like St. Norbert College, where annual food bills run close to \$1.5 million. Dining Services staff have a zero-waste goal in their sights: Read on for more on how they are getting close.



After serving

# 2,200

meals in a typical day, the resulting waste bound for the landfill fits easily into just a few trash bags.

# A lean, green food service machine

## The moral imperative

In the United States, some 40 percent of the available food supply goes uneaten, according to a recent study from the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). This food wasted is the equivalent of depriving every person in the country of more than 20 lbs of palatable food every month. Most of that food waste is destined to end up in landfills.

The estimated retail value of this food loss is \$165 billion each year. But nutrition is also lost in the mix, says the NRDC report. Food saved by reducing losses by just 15 percent could feed more than 25 million Americans every year, at a time when 1 in 6 Americans lacks a secure supply of food to their tables. "Given all the resources demanded for food production," the report reads, "it is critical to make sure that the least amount possible is needlessly squandered on its journey to our plates."

### Planning and ordering



What you don't order, you don't need to dispose of; the most effective way to minimize waste is by addressing over-consumption first. Dining Services takes care of business through:

- Forecasting based on usage reports.
- Reviewing recipes for components already on hand.
- Careful menu-planning.
- Ordering ahead for optimum value.
- Systematic storage of unused meal components, like sauces and garnishes.

# 44%

Reduction of pre-consumer food waste in academic year 2014-15

### Meal preparation



The waste-not want-not mentality that prevails in Dining Services rewards good-housekeeping practices like:

- Close trimming of produce.
- Saving trimmings for flavorful broths and stocks.
- Mindful sorting and disposing of inedible scraps.
- Menu-planning that meets strict guidelines but also allows chefs creative flexibility.
- Use of on-hand ingredients first.

#### Everything in its place

As food is sliced, diced and readied for serving, waste scraps are weighed and sorted into color-coded bins. The contents are variously headed to a local farm (for animal feed), the compost bin or a biodigester (where it is turned into biofuel).



### Cooking and consuming



Every week is a fresh challenge as staff maintain their commitment to quality. At the same time, good data tracks just how much they're saving through:

- Use of on-hand ingredients first.
- "Just-in-time" assembly of dishes from prepared components.
- Continuing communication from the dining room staff to the kitchens about the day's consumption patterns.
- Menu forecasting that allows for savvy purchasing.

#### Feeding people

Prepared food that doesn't get used is donated to a local food pantry and is used to feed the small army of volunteers who work there. Because the food is prepared and perishable, it cannot be distributed as pantry inventory.



### Post-consumption



At day's end, someone has to take out the garbage. In the St. Norbert kitchens, that means:

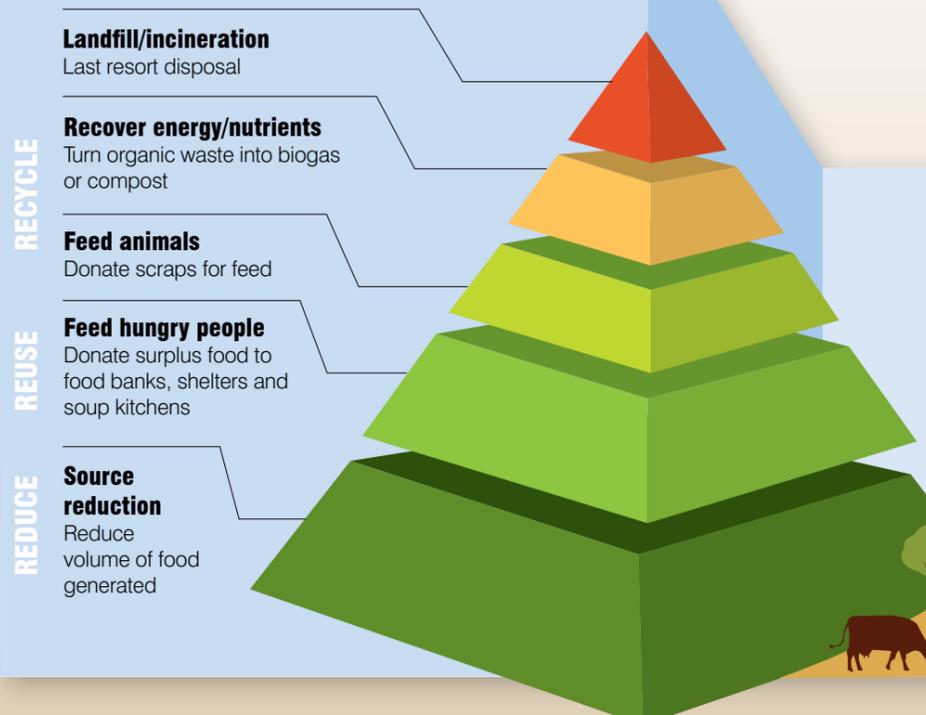
- Disposal of less than one garbage bagful per meal.
- Sending little more than plastic wrap, gloves and hairnets to the landfill.
- Considerable savings in the budget for garbage bags.
- Plenty of animal feed and compostable material ready for collection.
- Deserved pride on the part of all those involved.

#### Traditional recycling

When food is delivered, and as packaged products are put into use, items like cardboard cartons, cans and plastic containers are sorted and recycled. It all helps limit the amount of material that goes to the landfill.



## The food recovery hierarchy



#### Feed local farm animals

Farmer Ray's animals – cows, pigs, chickens – are the beneficiaries of carefully sorted leavings from the St. Norbert kitchens. On behalf of his stock, the local farmer values the nutritional quality and variety of the deliveries he collects for them twice weekly.



#### Compost for the community garden

St. Norbert's own student-run garden on Fourth Street is fertilized with vegetable waste from the kitchens. The garden returns the favor when it shares its harvest with Ruth's Marketplace.



#### Biofuel for UW Oshkosh

The first anaerobic dry-fermentation biodigester in the western hemisphere was built at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Food waste from St. Norbert contributes to the plant, which produces enough electricity to supply 10 percent of the university's needs.



#### Landfill

Food waste at St. Norbert was reduced by 44 percent in the first year of the waste-reduction initiative, saving \$1,000 or more in compactor and landfill fees. The college's trash compactor, which once needed emptying every four weeks, has not been emptied since October.





# Clean plate club

**W**hen **Mary Jo Morris** (Dining Services) got a bee in her bonnet about implementing a new system that could potentially eliminate food lost to the landfill, that bee kept buzzing and buzzing. Right up until the point when she left her boss's office with a "yes" in her hand.

**Ruth Johnson** (Auxiliary Services) oversees food service at the college, and she had just okayed her director's proposal. "How are you going to pay for it," she'd asked Morris. And Morris had said, "from the food dollars we will save by eliminating waste."

And now, leaving Johnson's office, she swallowed hard and almost backtracked. "Will we really be able to do it?" she wondered.

The cost wasn't the only hurdle between Morris and her ultimate goal: zero food-waste. In the food industry, that is generally taken to mean less than 10 percent waste sent to the landfill. She still had to present the concept to her kitchen, dining and dish-room staffs. And for that step, Morris chose not to start with the budget issue, or the waste issue, or the extra steps entailed in the system

she was proposing. She started, instead, with a screening for the staff of "Trashed," the award-winning environmental documentary presented by Jeremy Irons.

It wasn't hard to get engagement from the team, says Morris: "They take out the garbage." Managers had already been hearing concerns from their own staff – many of them leisure-time gardeners, composters, shoppers and family cooks, after all – about the amount of food wasted.

The new system meant embracing change in big and small ways, from trimming vegetables closer for vegetable broth to building the sorting and weighing of food-waste into habitual patterns. A key component was the introduction of the LeanPath system for monitoring food losses in commercial operations and providing analytics.

The cost wasn't the only hurdle between Morris and her ultimate goal: **zero** food waste.

"Anything you measure, you can affect," says Morris. "But you have to start measuring."

When management launches an initiative, skepticism usually follows. But according to purchaser **Cheryl Smits**, "the comfort zone was probably set when M.J. said, I don't care how much we waste at this point in time. We just need to know." The LeanPath system could give them the detailed, timely information they would need to begin their campaign.

When it comes to implementing change, says Morris, you've got to take time. "LeanPath was wonderful at giving us the answer which was, go slowly. Don't be punitive. You have to reward people for using the system you introduced.

"We put together presentations; a PowerPoint that spoke about waste. We played the 'Trashed' video. We showed them why we should do this; how important this is to the environment. Everybody can buy into that. We brought in a trainer for the whole day.

"I didn't want the managers to drop too much until they had taken the pulse of the staff. I certainly didn't want anyone saying, 'I don't know why we're doing

this. But M.J. wants it ... ! It comes down to knowing your audience, selling your initiative up front and taking baby steps along the way."

**Chef Dan Froelich** was one of the management team that visited other schools using the system. "We went to Michigan Tech and were really impressed. But at one other institution, we met an employee who said, 'Yeah, we have the system. It just sits on the counter. They didn't do the upfront work we did with LeanPath to prepare everybody."

Now, at St. Norbert, it's intuitive at every level. As Morris says, "It's just the way we work."

Froelich says, one of the first fears people had was, "Am I going to have time to do this?" The system requires weighing each container of discarded foodstuff and entering it on a computerized scale, with the average transaction taking 5-10 seconds. "We really kept talking about that, and that eased their mind a little bit. But when they were able to be trained by one of LeanPath's people and saw how easy it was ... well, now it's second nature."

For Froelich, the biggest benefit of the system is the immediacy of it. Before, staff would report food losses in writing and he might not look at the report for weeks. "Now I see the visual. Let's say we threw out four pans of grilled-cheese sandwiches. Why have I got four pans of grilled cheese left? I go back and find out what happened."

The analytics were a key factor. Morris says, "We look, we rationalize what happened, we go back to the team: 'This is what the data's showing us; what ideas do you have?'"

To minimize loss, the crews first pay attention to purchasing and preparation. Through batch-cooking and just-in-time preparation, they have the flexibility to respond to shifting demand.

Froelich says the dining-room staff has become very good at comparing the projection for lunch with the foot-traffic and sending word back when it's time to make some more of an unexpectedly popular dish. In the kitchen, the pieces and parts of a chicken casserole have been prepared separately for assembly just

before serving. Any unused chicken can be frozen for use in another dish; sauce can also be frozen; and the fresh vegetables can be used the next day. "Next time that recipe comes around on the menu," says Smits, "we can start with what's on hand."

Before food waste was so clearly on the radar of every member of the staff, says Morris, when there were 20 lbs. of casserole left and no menu to slide it into, it went in the garbage. It just wasn't on the horizon.

"We're not going to let our quality suffer," says Froelich. "And the rule of thumb is that we don't run out," adds Smits: "The student who arrives for lunch at 1:55 p.m. is paying for the same service as the student who came in at 11 a.m."

Under the new system, different chef supervisors are responsible for well-organized coolers in which staff can find that freshly made vegetable broth and other delicious beginnings of upcoming menus. Smits has masterminded this effort – the sophisticated commercial equivalent of standing in front of the open refrigerator at home, wondering what to make for supper. As Morris says, "Now we use it; then we threw it."

It needs a chef's eye to see what can and cannot be used, Smits says. Theirs is a dynamic menu that has to follow standardized recipes and procedures. But it's one that still leaves the chefs a lot of flexibility.

The new system wasn't adopted without a few surprises. Staff found they were ordering fewer garbage bags, for instance, but needing more pans for prepped food; even a new cooler went onto the shopping list.

Froelich says, "I'm really proud of how much waste we have eliminated. We've been going from 2,700 lbs. a week to 1,200 lbs. to 1,100 lbs. ... A lot of that has come through menu forecasting. We have a four-week cycle that runs four times through the semester. Once you see what the students are eating, and how much they're eating, you can start reducing quantities accordingly. LeanPath helps with that, also. But there are just so many new ways people are thinking now, compared with before." ♣

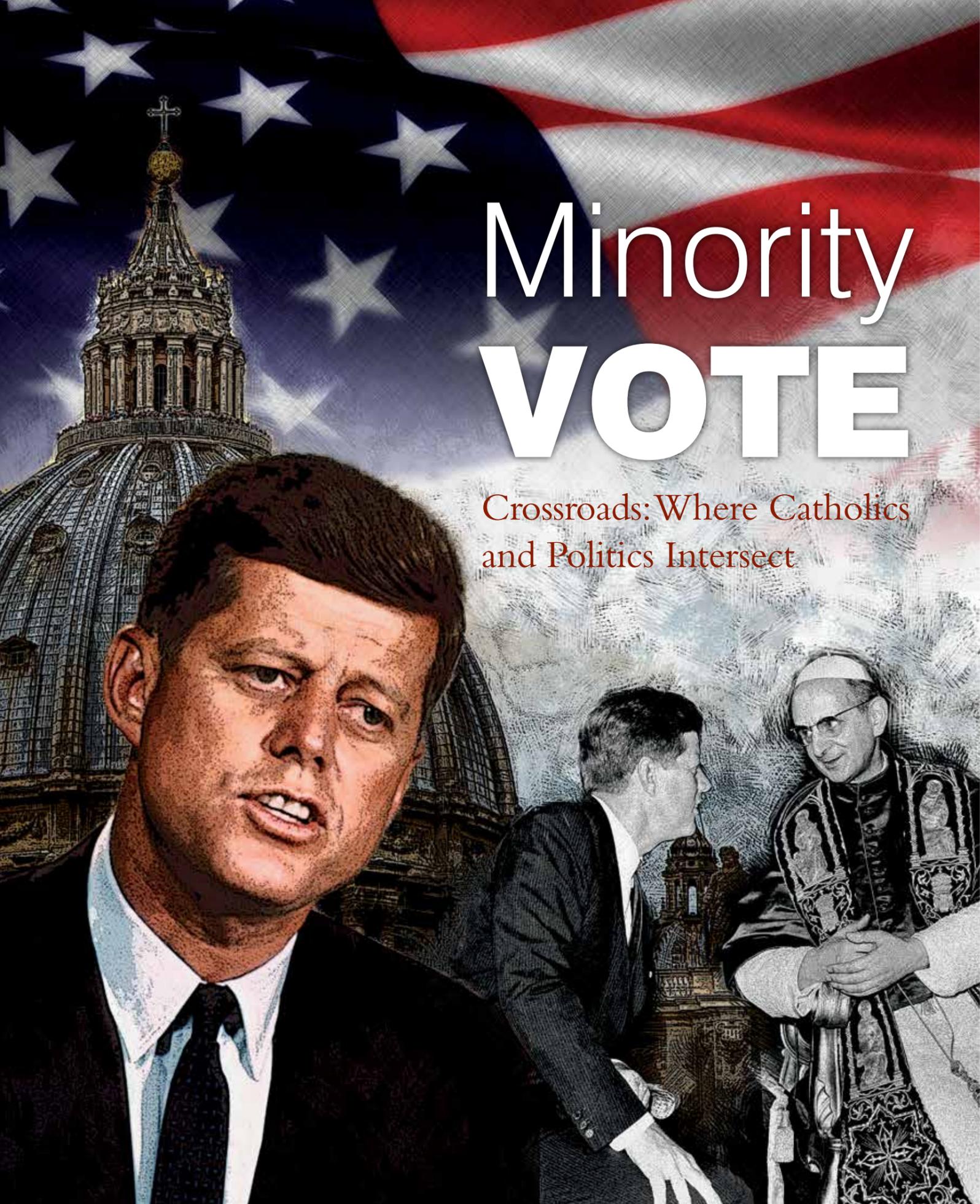
## Smile, please. You're on camera

At the heart of the LeanPath 360 food waste prevention system is a camera and a scale. All food waste is weighed and photographed before it is disposed of, capturing data for the week's analytics and a visual that chefs can use in training for the coming week and beyond on the way to the stated goal: zero waste, or as close to it as possible.

Bolster the system with impactful practices that include careful ordering; "just-in-time" menu and food-prep practices that make use of all usable foodstuffs for the most flavorful, healthful and freshest possible service; thoughtful allocation of leftovers; and a quick and easy sort-as-you-go system of refuse disposal. At the end of the day, it all leads to nothing less – and nothing more! – than a couple of garbage bags containing not much beyond plastic wrap, hairnets and a few rubber gloves.

"We don't want to weigh anything that is going to be repurposed," says Mary Jo Morris. "Because that's not waste."





# Minority VOTE

Crossroads: Where Catholics  
and Politics Intersect

By Paul Nicolaus '05

More than half a century ago, John Fitzgerald Kennedy became the first – and so far the only – Catholic president in American history. This landmark election didn't just welcome in the first Catholic president, says **Larry McAndrews** (History, Emeritus). It introduced a whole new era of influence.

From JFK's historic 1961 speech that challenged NASA and the nation to put a man on the moon to Vice President Joe Biden's more recent call for a "moon shot" to cure cancer, Catholic leaders have played a vital role in inspiring our country to break through boundaries and achieve the seemingly unachievable.

"American Catholics opened the door to the White House in 1960," McAndrews writes in his latest book, "What They Wished For: American Catholics and American Presidents, 1960-2004" (2014). He adds, "In the face of constitutional challenges, political objections, religious resentments, internal squabbles and a whole lot of history, they have kept it wide open ever since."

Today nearly one-third of Congress members, two-thirds of Supreme Court justices and almost one-half of the candidates in the early running to become our nation's next president identify as Catholic. Not bad for a religious denomination that was once on the fringes of our nation's political scene.

## Two JFKs and an untold story

Despite differences in race, class, gender and party, McAndrews argues, Catholics have experienced a growing acceptance in national politics and have influenced modern presidents in a profound way. In fact, Catholic voters have gained so much relevance and influence, he contends, that a majority of them actually voted against one of their own in the 2004 election that pitted John Kerry against George W. Bush.

"Both Kennedy and Kerry were Catholic Democratic senators from Massachusetts," McAndrews notes. "Kerry was the first Catholic major-party presidential nominee since Kennedy. Yet Kennedy's success in overcoming considerable anti-Catholicism in 1960 helped assure that Kerry's religion would not be a factor in 2004."

While virtually every American voter knew that Kennedy was Catholic and many voted for or against him solely because of his faith, McAndrews adds,

most Catholics did not know that Kerry was one of them. The overwhelming majority of Catholics voted for Kennedy regardless of their politics, whereas most Catholics voted against Kerry regardless of their religion.

"In a little over four decades, most American Catholics had gone from celebrating to repudiating one of their own," he writes, "authoring a story that historians have yet to tell." As an American Catholic who has taught United States history, McAndrews has long been fascinated by the relationships between his church and his government, and with the two JFKs serving as the genesis of his book project he set out to answer what happened between 1960 and 2004 to cause such a dramatic shift.

## Revelatory research

"What They Wished For" proceeds chronologically through nine chapters, one for each president, with each broken down into three major issues – issues that, themselves, lie at the heart of Catholic social teaching. They are war and peace; social justice; and life and death. The research that informs his examination is unmistakable – more than 100 pages of footnotes point to various sources that include government files, White House memos, archives of presidential libraries and various archdioceses to name a handful.

And that in-depth research process proved both surprising and enlightening. Based on his previous research, McAndrews had concluded that American Catholics, and especially their bishops, had not been all that successful in terms of influencing their government. For example, the bishops' long quest for various forms of federal aid to Catholic elementary and secondary schools has largely been in vain.

"Archbishop Francis Hurley of Anchorage, Alaska, once jokingly told me that the motto of his fellow bishops was 'Let us not test our political muscle, because it isn't there,'" McAndrews recalls. "So when I wrote the proposal for this book I titled it 'What They Wished For,' as in 'be careful what you wish for,' half-expecting that it would be another story of failure."

By the time McAndrews finished writing, however, he had discovered that, while the bishops and their followers had their share of setbacks on issues such as abortion and the Iraq wars, they also experienced a fair amount of successes ranging from civil rights



"Both Kennedy and Kerry were Catholic Democratic senators from Massachusetts. Kerry was the first Catholic major-party presidential nominee since Kennedy. Yet Kennedy's success in overcoming considerable anti-Catholicism in 1960 helped assure that Kerry's religion would not be a factor in 2004."

A Washington, D.C., internship put **Katelyn Van Buskirk '17** in the middle of the action as CNN prepared to cover December's Republican debate in Las Vegas. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)

to faith-based government programs. And take a look at the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation Dinner as an example of an important tradition in American politics, says **Scott Wilson '91**, a Green Bay area attorney who studied political science and government at St. Norbert College.

Organized and held in honor of former New York Governor Al Smith, the very first Catholic presidential candidate, this charity dinner run by the Archdiocese of New York brings U.S. presidential candidates together every four years for a night filled with self-deprecating humor. It's a refreshing break from politics as usual, and it occurs at a crucial moment, often serving as the final time the candidates share a stage before the election itself.

## Catholic complexity

In the midst of a presidential election year, McAndrews' book is, perhaps, particularly intriguing to consider. While he is wary of peering into or attempting to predict the future, pointing to the words of his colleague **Wayne Patterson** (History), who says that "historians predict the past," he does note that if, recent history serves as a guide, Catholics will likely serve as "swing" voters who could play a crucial role in deciding the election. After all, every candidate since 1972 who has gone on to win the "Catholic vote" has won the popular vote as well.

That Catholic electorate is intricate, however, as voters have been closely divided between the two major parties in recent presidential elections. Dig a little deeper and there are some interesting developments taking place within that Catholic voting bloc at large, according to **Ivy Cargile** (Political Science), whose research hones in on the political behavior of racial and ethnic communities, and the Latino electorate in particular.

A growing population of Latino voters – a significant proportion of whom identify as Catholic – is impacting this

electorate. "We have seen a consistent increase in the number of Latino eligible voters since 2004," says Cargile, and according to the U.S. Census Bureau, a total of 800,000 Latinos turn 18 each year. That's an average of one every 30 seconds, or more than 66,000 individuals per month. In the 2016 presidential race, it is estimated that the Latino electorate is going to make up more than 10 percent of the electorate at large.

"I think the 2016 presidential and any presidential [election] from here on out is going to be influenced by the Latino electorate," she adds. "The key here is if the campaigns are able to get them mobilized." Traditionally a Democratic cohort, one of the fascinating characteristics of this group is that it is made up of sophisticated voters who cannot easily be pigeonholed.

Although a significant proportion of Hispanics do identify as Catholic, for example, it's a misconception that Latinos take their religion into the voting booth, Cargile adds. Their faith matters, but so do the big issues that could impact their own lives and the lives of their children – the economy, health care, education and immigration, for example.

## A prominent voice

While McAndrews says he encourages readers to draw their own conclusions from his book, one lesson it does seem to offer is that, although the separation of church and state is sacred in the United States, so, too, is freedom of religion. "Every president has to strike a balance between these two pillars of the First Amendment," he notes, "and since about one of every four Americans is Catholic, a president cannot afford to overlook the interests of their church."

And although no one can predict with certainty who will be elected in 2016, it is clear, McAndrews adds, that he or she will have to listen to the Catholic voice. ♣

# Alumni

OF ST. NORBERT COLLEGE



## Connections feed alumni-led gatherings

There's a special kinship that exists among St. Norbert alumni, even if they're from different generations, professions or regions. Those eager to connect with each other are finding it simpler than ever with alumni office support to make memories at events they create themselves.

**Nate Bond '07** has organized two major alumni reunion events on campus. Last winter, more than 100 guests attended a 20-year anniversary celebration for the Delta Upsilon fraternity, with campus tours, a dinner dance, and special honors for longtime fraternity advisor **Stephen Westergan** (Humanities). "You get to see friends you might not necessarily see all the time, especially if they live out of state," says Bond. "The camaraderie you get from having that alum base is something really special."

Bond used a similar formula to plan a Knight Theatre reunion, working with advisor **Michael Rosewall** (Academic Affairs) and other alumni. After a dinner in Michels Ballroom, they met with the cast backstage then watched the Knight Theatre production of "Young Frankenstein." "Seeing these kids' eyes when we all walked in before the performance was a really neat experience," says Bond.

Another such event brings together fraternity brothers from Sigma Nu Chi/Sigma Tau Gamma on June 25, when they'll celebrate the 90th birthday of the fraternity's former advisor, the **Rev. Rowland DePeaux, O.Praem. '48**. They expect a big turnout after the revered priest's 85th birthday party drew

about 150 fraternity members and other alumni to campus.

"He has guided us through our years at SNC, married dozens of us and baptized dozens of our children," says **Bill Van Ess '85** (Business Administration), who is working with the alumni office to plan the June celebration. "He has been a blessing to everyone that has had the opportunity to know him." This time around, DePeaux is involved in planning the event, which will include a pianist. "It would not be a true Father DePeaux party if he didn't break out in a song or three!" says Van Ess.

For another upcoming gathering, high-school English teacher **Kathleen Harsy '03** worked with former classmates **Becky Radoszewski '02**, **Lauren Pisano '03** and **Bridget Jordan '03** to start a Women's Education League event series in the Chicago area. The women are now planning a St. Norbert College edition of the event – a luncheon on campus the last weekend of April. "Our first steps as educators began in De Pere," says Harsy. "We want to contribute to our alma mater's campus life and reconnect with the location where our love and professionalism regarding education started."

St. Norbert alumni who studied abroad in Peru in the 1970s reunited last June; **John Koprowski '61** coordinates regular on-campus breakfast gatherings with SNC professors and priests as guest speakers. The list of reunions and other alumni-driven events continues to grow.

## HOT SPOT

After the official events of last year's successful Delta Upsilon anniversary party were finished, some of the guests weren't quite ready to say goodbye, says **Nate Bond**, who majored in psychology and philosophy. Many of the frat brothers had gathered for pizza the previous night, then commenced a busy day of campus tours and the formal dinner dance. Still, late in the evening they had energy left to relive a tradition from their college years.

"We had a great time ... and we eventually made it out to Baba Louie's," says Bond. The dance floor of the De Pere nightclub, affectionately known as "Baba's," has been a hot spot for students for decades. "The night's not complete until you've been to Baba's!" says Bond.

## Election Years on Campus

### Researching

The St. Norbert College political science faculty is immersed in research that ranges from the public's preference and perception of the selection of judges to the political process in developing nations.

### Studying

Political Parties & Elections (POLI 332) is a course that examines the role of political parties and elections at the state and national levels in the U.S. It focuses on elections as a mechanism that links the citizens and the institutions of government in a democracy.

### Listening

The Great Decisions series addresses world topics of our time with an eye on international economic, political and social subjects that are

both current and provocative. This program of the Foreign Policy Association runs every spring semester. St. Norbert is one of only two schools in Wisconsin to offer the full series.

### Encountering

Over the years many presidential and other candidates have asked to book St. Norbert College facilities for stops on their campaign trails, and have been generously accommodated. Such opportunities have provided our students with extraordinary front-row seats to the hustings.

### Supporting

Students have the opportunity to get involved and promote political awareness on campus through involvement in organizations such as the College Republicans or College Democrats.

### Polling

The St. Norbert College Strategic Research Institute has formed a partnership with Wisconsin Public Radio to conduct The Wisconsin Survey, a biannual statewide survey on political issues.

### Registering

The Norman Miller Center for Peace, Justice & Public Understanding is available to assist with voter registration at regular, published hours. Students can also register at the polling site.

### Voting

Students can vote just a couple of blocks away from campus at the De Pere Community Center, and Miller Center interns typically offer a shuttle service to facilitate voting.

**Births**

**1996 Doreen (Mitchell)** and Clint **Drescher**, Manitowoc, Wis., a son, Austin Joseph, Sept. 25, 2015. Austin joins brother Mitchell, 8.

**1998 Christine (Daniels)** and John **MacCarthy**, Wausau, Wis., a son, Raymond Gabriel, Feb. 3, 2015. He joins sisters Morgan, 22, Fiona, 9, Elizabeth, 8, and Enya, 6.

**2000 Erin (Nitka)** and Andrew **Kenth**, Franklin, Wis., a son, Kaden Lee, Sept. 21, 2015. Kaden joins sister Camille, 2.

**2002 Tamara (Tranowski)** and Jeff **Cook**, Brookfield, Wis., a son, Malcolm Thomas, April 29, 2015. Malcolm joins brother Carter, 7.

**2002 Amanda (Holtz)** and **Charles Bork '99**, Boston, a son, Theodore Patrick, July 5, 2015.

**2002 Kara (Owens)** and **Charlie Leiterman '98**, De Pere, a daughter, Mary, Aug. 18, 2015.

**2005 Ashley (DeGuelle)** and **Adam Groskreutz '06**, Green Bay, a daughter, Morgan Elizabeth, Dec. 26, 2014.

**2005 Brianne (Goodwin-Hudson)** and Joshua **Holmstadt**, St. Michael, Minn., a daughter, Scarlett Josephine, Jan. 27, 2015. Scarlett joins sister Olivia, 3.

**2005 Jill Yashinsky-Wortman** and Roy **Wortman**, Spokane, Wash., a daughter, Elin, July 17, 2015. Elin joins brother Jack, 3.

**2006 Andrea (Lee)** and **Phillip Schultz '06**, Green Bay, a son, Cedric, May 27, 2015.

**2007 Lindsay (Draeger)** and Ted

**Krueger**, Sussex, Wis., a daughter, Dakota Christine, March 27, 2015.

**2007 Aaryn (Miller)** and Corey **Faust**, Kiel, Wis., twin daughters, Kennadi Jo and Eleanor Anne, July 1, 2015. They join brother Grant, 4.

**2007 Lauren (Page)** and Nicholas **Hitt**, New Berlin, Wis., a son, Finnegan, Aug. 23, 2015. Finnegan joins brother Emerson, 2.

**2008 Annie (Maher)** and **Matt Gajewski '07**, Green Bay, a son, Eli Matthew, April 8, 2015. Eli joins brother Patrick, 3.

**2008 Bethany (Gutsch)** and **Jeremy Hoffmann '08**, a son, Oliver Timothy, Sept. 3, 2015. Oliver joins brother Graham, 3.

**2009 Evan** and Keely **Marlow**, Greenfield, Wis., a son, Emmett, April 26, 2015.

**2011 Abbey (Vorpapel)** and Eric **Rosenquist**, Janesville, Wis., twin daughters, Emilia Marie and Eloise Kathleen, Sept. 4, 2015. They join brother Levi.

**2011 Elizabeth (Bauer)** and **Alex Allie '11**, Manitowoc, Wis., a daughter, Abigail Rose, Sept. 21, 2015.

**Marriages**

**1985 Bruce Thomson** and Brandon **Laurrell-Thomson**, May 15, 2015. They live in Orlando, Fla.

**2001 Katie (Mathesius)** and Steve **Follett**, Dec. 12, 2015. They live in Elkhorn, Wis.

**2003 Rebecca (Otte)** and Clinton **Ford**, Aug. 15, 2015. They live in Madison, Wis.

**2003 Lisa (LeGrave)**

and Nick **Schuh**, Sept. 26, 2015. They live in Green Bay.

**2005 Eric** and Nellie **DeJardine**, June 21, 2014. They live in Green Bay.

**2006 Justine (Vanचना)** and Shawn **Murphy**, Aug. 17, 2014. They live in Neenah, Wis.

**2007 Jamie (Baumhardt)** and Ryan **Gueller**, Sept. 4, 2015. They live in Fond du Lac, Wis.

**2007 Jeff Herald** and Amanda Miller, Nov. 7, 2015. They live in Pewaukee, Wis.

**2008 Daniel Mahoney** and Danielle Patterson, June 20, 2015. They live in Chicago.

**2008 Jennifer (Felber)** and Ed **Weaver**, Sept. 26, 2015. They live in Norridge, Ill.

**2010 Kristin (Brandt)** and **Nathaniel Redig '10**, Sept. 19, 2015. They live in West Bend, Wis.

**2011 Molly (Moran)** and Andrew **Harder**, Oct. 3, 2015. They live in Appleton, Wis.

**2011 Anna (Noreus)** and Erik **Hoefner**, Oct. 24, 2015. They live in Green Bay.

**2012 Alex (DuBois)** and Jake **VandeHei**, Aug. 8, 2015. They live in Minneapolis.

**2014 Kendra (Wauters)** and **Phillip Ohlinger '14**, Aug. 15, 2015. They live in Green Bay.

**Deaths**

**1948 Dominic Santacroce**, of Wautoma, Wis., died Aug. 12, 2015, at the age of 88. Santacroce served in the 82nd

Airborne Division during World War II, after which he worked in the accounting department for C Spark Plug/Delco Electronics. He is survived by his wife, Alice, and five children.

**1950 Patrick Kennedy**, of Green Bay, died May 31, 2015, at the age of 91. Kennedy served in the U.S. Navy for three years during World War II. He became the director of public health for the city of Madison in 1980, and later retired to Green Bay. He is survived by his wife, Geri, and three children.

**1950 Frank Nauschultz**, of Sheboygan, Wis., died June 18, 2015, at the age of 88. Nauschultz served in the U.S. armed forces and later worked at the C. Reiss Coal Company in Sheboygan, Wis., retiring after 38 years – the last 12 as president of the company. He is survived by his wife, Arlynn, and five children.

**1950 Roger Hermsen**, of Appleton, Wis., died on Sept. 11, 2015, at the age of 86. Hermsen was the president and CEO of Bayland Telephone Company, started in 1909 by his father, and was instrumental in the formation of regional wireless provider Cellcom. He is survived by his wife, Mary Carmen, and three children.

**1950 Gene Beno**, of Green Bay, died on Sept. 25, 2015, at the age of 87. Beno worked as a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service before his promotion to postmaster, enjoying 30 years of retirement after his career-long commitment. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and four children.

**1951 Robert Seroogy**, of Milwaukee, died



hosted the Third Thursday Coffee, a monthly gathering at the alumni house of his fellow ROTC grads. He was instrumental in the launching of both the professional continuing education program and the CEO Breakfast Series, and tutored ESL students for more than 15 years. At times, Sinkler was known to volunteer as many as 30 or 40 hours per week on campus. Sinkler served in the U.S. Army for 26 years, retiring as lieutenant colonel. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann, son **Steven Sinkler '83**, daughter Paula (Sadler) and brother **Gregory '63**.

Aug. 22, 2015, at the age of 85. Seroogy spent the majority of his professional career with the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation after studies at Marquette University's school of engineering. He is survived by his wife, Lucille, and four daughters.

**1951 James Powers**, of Neenah, Wis., died Aug. 27, 2015, at the age of 86. Powers served in the U.S. Army, stationed in Korea (1952-53) for part of his active duty. He then worked in employee relations at Bergstrom-Glatfelter Paper Company, retiring in 1991. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and two sons.

**1952 George Greenwood**, of Kaukauna, Wis., died July 29, 2015, at the age of 85. Greenwood served in the U.S. Army, first stationed in Korea, then later in the Army Reserve and National Guard. He owned and operated

**Lifetime of engagement**  
The extraordinary engagement of **Paul Sinkler '59** in the life of his alma mater drew to a close only with his death Dec. 12, 2015, at the age of 78. Sinkler, of Green Bay, taught in the ROTC program and

part-time alongside his son Bob. Romanski, who was featured in "The Sporting Life" in the Fall 2010 issue of this magazine, was inducted into the St. Norbert College Athletics Hall of Fame in 1988 for football. He held a special place in his heart for the construction of St. Norbert's Schneider Stadium, completed in 2010. He is survived by four children.

**1955 James Ritchay**, of Green Bay, died Aug. 19, 2015, at the age of 82. He enjoyed a successful career with Fort Howard Steel, from which he retired as vice president and treasurer after 35 years with the company. Ritchay was inducted into the St. Norbert College Athletics Hall of Fame for his achievements both on and off the basketball court. He is survived by his wife, Minnie, and three sons.

**1952 Richard Cleereman**, of Moraga, Calif., died Aug. 17, 2015, at the age of 85. Cleereman had a successful 30-plus-year career in investment banking in the San Francisco area after his service in the Korean War. He is survived by his wife, Sue, and two children.

**1960 Carole Beerntsen**, of Green Bay, died June 1, 2015, at the age of 76. Beerntsen made her career as an elementary school teacher. She is survived by her husband, Robert, and four children.

**1960 Francis "Joe" Allard Jr.**, of Stillwater, Minn., died July 2, 2015, at the age of 75. Allard was an Army reservist from 1956 to 1964, with 10 months of active duty at Fort Lewis, Wash. He went on to make his career as a chemical engineer with 3M, retiring after 33 years. Joe is survived by his wife, Carolyn, and children.

**1960 Joseph Pranke**, of De Pere, died Sept. 20, 2015, at the age of 80. Pranke dedicated his career to teaching, beginning at Lincoln High School in Manitowoc, Wis., and later at Lombardi Middle School in Green Bay. He is survived by his son, Joe Jr.

**1962 Delbert Cornette**, of Green Bay, died June 21, 2015, at the age of 77. Cornette volunteered at the Veterans Affairs clinic, providing transportation, and was an avid reader. In later life, he went on to complete a master's degree in metaphysical theology and a doctorate in ministry. He is survived by his wife, Jane, and seven children.

**1963 David De Lain**, of Vancouver, Wash., died July 28, 2015, at the age of 75. De Lain was an accomplished pianist who studied at Cambridge and Harvard Universities, later completing his masters in business at Pepperdine University. He worked as a dispatcher for Schneider Transportation and later for Consolidated

**Liz Sauter '10**



Photo courtesy, Jordan Matter

**Is all at sea**

*Elizabeth Sauter '10, is vocal captain aboard the luxury liner, Queen Elizabeth. She manages a small cast of singers on the ship, which is embarked on a world voyage.*

**Leaving harbor** After my master's at NYU, I performed in two national tours and even at Carnegie Hall. The chance arose to sing on board the Celebrity Constellation, and then to join the cast of a new show on the Queen Elizabeth. Lots of hard work, time and effort goes into auditioning, but when you get the call saying you have the job, it's very exciting!

**Life at sea** You're living on a big floating hotel. Your house pulls up to a new country every day. Our crew comes from more than 40 countries. I like to think of this as my giant study-abroad experience.

**Shipmates** The whole cast lives on the same corridor on the ship. We have a lot of fun. It kind of reminds me of living in Sensenbrenner, my freshman year!

**Decked out** It's fun to get dressed up in a gorgeous gown for your job. I wear a gold sequin dress for my favorite song, "My Heart Will Go On" from "Titanic." It might seem strange to be singing that on a cruise ship but it works well in our show! It was my father's favorite song to hear me sing, too, so it's really nice that every night I can sing it for him.

**Souvenirs of the voyage** I like to collect musical instruments from around the world. If there comes a day when I decide not to perform, I know that I want to go back into music education. I thought that, with this unique collection, it would be a really nice way to continue sharing my experiences with a future generation.

Freightways in both Sunnyvale, Calif., and Portland, Ore., retiring from the latter as vice president of data service telecommunications. He is survived by his sister, Kathleen, and brother, Ron.

**1971 Maureen Walker**, of Waukesha, Wis., died June 2, 2015, at the age of 65. Walker worked as a teacher, homemaker and, later in her career, in the healthcare field. She loved to travel and explore many domestic and international destinations with family. She is survived by three children.

**1973 Jody Ann Priest**, of Combined Locks, Wis., died Sept. 12, 2015, at the age of 62. Priest was an avid camper and enjoyed traveling throughout the Midwest, experiencing nature. She is survived by two children, Christine and Bill.

**1984 Edmund Kalupa**, of Appleton, Wis., died Oct. 1, 2015, at the age of 53. Kalupa made a successful career as a business development manager for Print-Pro Inc. He is survived by his wife, Lori, and two children.

**1997 Christine (Buerger) Sitter**, of Fond du Lac, Wis., died June 8, 2015, at the age of 40. Sitter was a librarian at St. Mary Springs High School, as well as the coach for the freshman volleyball and forensics teams. Christine is survived by her husband, **Dan '97**, and two daughters.

**2002 Elizabeth Dorn**, of Shawano, Wis., died Oct. 5, 2015, at the age of 58. An avid environmentalist, Dorn was the director of Fallen Timbers Environmental Center for more than 25 years before pursuing additional environmental causes, including

teaching as an adjunct instructor at Fox Valley Technical College, and field directing and managing as a project liaison for the University of Wisconsin-Extension system. She is survived by her daughter, Athena.

## Class Notes

**1950 Leonard Swidler** was a featured panelist at the Nostra Aetate & the Future of Interreligious Dialogue conference at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Swidler is the professor of Catholic thought and interreligious dialogue at Temple University, and founder and president of the Dialogue Institute.

**1955 Jim and Pat Van Straten** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 11, 2015. The couple, who live in Windcrest, Texas, have six children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild, born Jan. 30, 2015. (See page 11 for news of Jim's newly published book on his service in Vietnam.)

**1973 Susan Lefel** owns Delavan (Wis.) Nursery Center Preschool, which celebrates 50 years in business. Lefel's sister Trish, who also works there, says the methodology and ideas taught at St. Norbert in the early 70s are still considered to be best practices in the field of early childhood education.

**1973 William Brash III** has been appointed to Wisconsin's District 1 Court of Appeals.

**1975 Bob Zuleger** has joined NOVO Health as vice president for business development.

**1978 David Hawking** has been named regional sales manager for the product storage, organization and

transportation company Akro-Mill, overseeing its Midwest sales territory.

**1979 Kevin Shaw** has been appointed president at Notre Dame Academy in Green Bay.

**1979 Mark Mohr**, president and CEO of First Bank Financial Centre in Oconomowoc, Wis., has been honored as the Independent Community Bankers of America's 2015 National Community Banker of the Year. The award recognizes exceptional work in the organization and throughout the community. Under Mohr's leadership, his bank's employees volunteer more than 10,000 hours across 400 organizations.

**1980 Steve Soukup** has been elected president of the Village of Bellevue, Wis.

**1981 Terri Trantow** received the 2015 ATHENA Award from the Greater Green Bay Chamber of Commerce. The award recognizes those who distinguish themselves in their profession as well as genuinely assisting with the advancement of women in the area.

**1982 Mike Archer** has been appointed CEO of Kansas-based HRI, the owner of several restaurant chains.

**1984 Michael Maley** has been selected assistant vice president of RLI Insurance Company, based in Peoria, Ill.

**1984 Rich Winch** has been named vice president at Opinion Dynamics, an independently owned energy efficiency, research and analytics company headquartered in Massachusetts.

**1985 Jane Neufield** has been named vice

president for student development at Loyola University. Neufield most recently served as Loyola's dean of students, a position held for 12 years.

**1987 Andrew Manion** has been appointed the 16th president of Marian University. *Subscribers to @St. Norbert read more about the Manion presidential legacy in our December 2015 issue, available at [snc.edu/news/enews](http://snc.edu/news/enews).*

**1988 John Sweeney** explores what innovation means to the individual in his co-authored book "The Innovative Mindset: 5 Behaviors for Accelerating Breakthroughs." Sweeney is the co-owner and executive producer of Brave New Workshop, America's oldest satirical comedy theatre, where he teaches how improv-based behaviors and skills can lead to a culture of innovation.

**1988 Kaye Ceille** has joined the board of directors of Susan G. Komen, the world's largest organization dedicated to funding breast cancer research, education, treatment and other services. Ceille, a cancer survivor herself, brings to the organization nearly two decades of senior leadership experience in the travel and transportation industry.

**1989 Sean Federbusch**, a fifth-grade teacher at Adams Elementary School in Santa Barbara, Calif., has been profiled by the Santa Barbara Independent for his partnership with Dos Pueblos High School and its innovative engineering academy. Federbusch is working with the Dos Pueblos Engineering Academy (DPEA) for a year to bring back engineering curriculum

and techniques to the Adams Design Center, a 2,000-square-foot classroom that provides hands-on STEM education to primary grades. The DPEA uses project-based learning that requires students to use their problem-solving, decision-making and investigative skills.

In Fall 2016, Federbusch will return

to his fifth-graders and introduce the DPEA curriculum to them, and all of Adam's kindergarten through sixth-grade students, as part of their design, art and music rotation.

**1990 The Rev. Kevin Butler** is now parochial administrator of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Somonauk, Ill.



### A major feat of the feet

Two years after setting the women's record for the quickest thru-hike of Wisconsin's 1,200-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail, **Melanie Radzicki McManus '83** set out to do it again – in reverse order. Bettering her time by more than two days and now holding the top two completion times, she finished in 34 days, 4 hours and 44 minutes.

The trail follows the edge of the last continental glacier in the state, which left behind unique landscape features – moraines, eskers, kettles, drumlins – when it retreated 12,000 years ago. In addition to the geological landforms, McManus says, "There's prairie, there's the forest, there's all the rivers, the lakes ... that was very cool." An early portion of her quest fell during unseasonably warm temperatures, so wading provided some relief from the heat – and for her aching feet.

McManus's 2015 trek took her from the eastern terminus in Potawatomi State Park on Aug. 29, to the western terminus at Interstate State Park located in St. Croix Falls on Oct. 2. On her 2013 journey, she had traveled the reverse route, from west to east. She maintained a daily blog that can be read at [www.epiciceagetrail.blogspot.com](http://www.epiciceagetrail.blogspot.com).

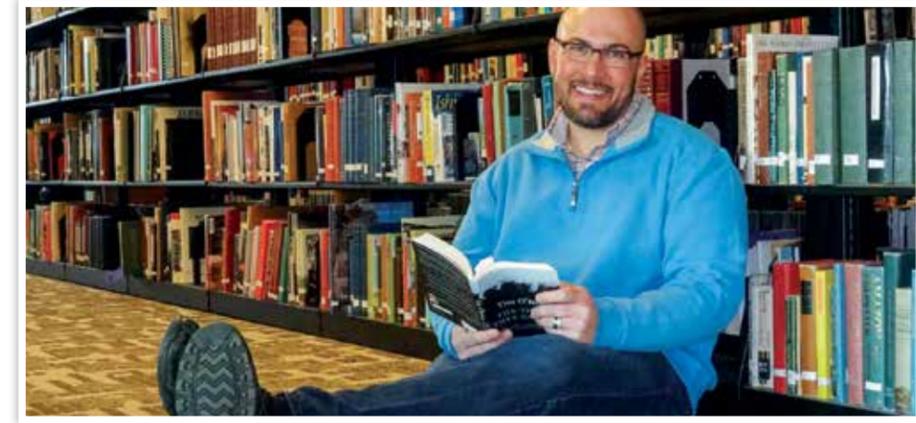
*McManus, a travel writer, is a regular contributor to this magazine and other college publications. Her article about the groundbreaking introduction of the study of science-fiction at St. Norbert can be read on page 16 of this issue.*

## SUCCESS STORY

Interested in writing the great American novel or simply some coherent diary entries? Scott Winkler says these tips will help you reach your goal:

"Read a lot, because in reading you begin to develop that inner sense, that voice, you like in writing. When you find those writers that really, really work for you better than anyone else, look at how they write and try to imitate them. Not plagiarize. But in any career ... if you become a plumber, you first serve as an apprentice. If you work at McDonald's, you learn the job from someone. So learn from those writers. See how they arrange words. Construct sentences. What you'll find is that you come to a place where you'll do that, too, but in your own way."

Liam Callanan, author of "The Cloud Atlas," says "The Meadow," a new novel by **Scott Winkler** (page 31) "feels lived and lived in, which is the highest compliment I can give a novel." Our excerpt deals with an Eastertide experience. [snc.edu/magazine](http://snc.edu/magazine)



## Words to the wise

By day, he teaches English at Luxemburg-Casco High School. Nights, weekends and any other time he can manage, he's tapping away on his laptop. **Scott Winkler '93** is addicted to words. Flowing sentences. Well-crafted stories. Whether he's discussing them with his students, coaxing them out of their heads and onto paper, or stringing them together himself, he finds it all magical.

Winkler began his writing career at St. Norbert, where his first printed piece was a poem, "Dancer," published in *The Rectangle*, a literary journal of the international English honor society Sigma Tau Delta. He continued writing poetry as a young teacher. But eventually he segued to fiction. "I had some stories I wanted to tell, some things I wanted to get out, but poetry felt a little too limiting," he says.

Many of the stories Winkler wanted to tell involved baseball. A lifelong Brewers fan, he became enamored with the writings of W.P. Kinsella, who penned the novel "Shoeless Joe," later made into the film "Field of Dreams." After attending a weeklong class during the University of Iowa's Summer Writing Festival, Winkler decided he needed to go back to school to hone his writing. He received a master's in English at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and just earned his Ph.D. in the same subject, also from UW-Milwaukee. During the decade-plus he was in graduate school, he continued to

teach. He also continued to write.

Has he settled on a favorite genre? "I still find myself torn in so many ways!" he says. "I'm working on this novel right now, but I also find myself drawn to academic writing. There's a great academic book waiting to happen on serious baseball literature, and I'm chomping at the bit to do that." And teaching? That's still a passion, too. Winkler loves talking writing and literature with his enthusiastic, young pupils, who think it's pretty cool their teacher is a published author.

"It's neat to be able to share some of the lessons I've learned with them," he says. "And it gives me some credibility." Even better, through his love of teaching and writing, he models the importance of dreaming big. "[My writing career] inspires them to take chances, to dream, to not be afraid to go after the golden ring."

To wit: One of Winkler's former students contacted him to say she'd been in college, pursuing a safe career as an occupational therapist, when she suddenly realized she had absolutely no passion for the field. Even though she had no idea what she'd find inspirational, she couldn't continue to pursue a career she didn't really care about. "She said, 'But I'll figure out what my dream is. I'll find what's right for me,'" recalls Winkler, who was stoked on her behalf. "I may never bring out a great writer or poet [through my teaching], but I can definitely help young people pursue their dreams."

## Credits

Scott Winkler has published a wide variety of pieces across numerous genres, including poetry, fiction, pop culture and academia. A few credits:

- "The Wide Turn Toward Home" (Pocol Press, 2008), a collection of seven short stories and the title novella.
- "Burning Gorman Thomas," a short story published in *Elysian Fields Quarterly*, a literary baseball journal.
- "Poems of My Father," a collection of poems published in *Verse Wisconsin*.
- "Dreams Like Baseball Cards: Baseball, Bricoleur, and the Gap in Sherman Alexie's 'The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven,'" a scholarly article published in *Aethlon*, a publication of the Sports Literature Association. (Oxford University used this article in a course on post-colonial literature.)

**1993 Tom Clark** appeared on the Sept. 28 episode of Conan O'Brien's show, guest-starring with a standup comedy set.

**1994 Ed Williams** has joined the staff at Leeds Real Estate in Iron Mountain, Mich., as a sales agent.

**1995 Ellen King** has been inducted into the Chicago chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier, a prestigious education and mentorship society for women in the culinary professions. King was profiled in the New York Times' Sunday Travel section as part of its "Where to Eat and Drink in Evanston" article. Her bakery, Hewn, in Evanston, Ill., produces artisanal naturally leavened breads and pastries.

**1995 Nell Benton** has published "Ramen Fusion Cookbook" (DK Publishing). Benton made headlines in 2011 when she bought her restaurant, The National Cafe in Milwaukee, for a mere \$100, turning it into a premiere café and catering business. *Benton's expanding culinary career was featured in our Spring 2013 issue.*

**1998 Stephanie Van Beckum McCullagh** has completed her first year as the enrollment management consultant for the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas. McCullagh advances the recruitment and marketing efforts of 36 Catholic elementary schools and seven Catholic high schools in northeast Kansas.

**1999 Kevin McCullagh** has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army. McCullagh currently serves as the Army ROTC professor of military science at

Missouri Western State University.

**1999 Hai Nguyen** has been appointed chair of the physics department at the University of Mary Washington. Nguyen's work in the field of atomic molecular and optical physics is currently being applied to investigate nano-particle properties for potential photodynamic cancer therapies.

**2000 Brennan Haworth** has been appointed assistant vice president of Appleton-based Fiduciary Partners Inc.

**2001 Chris Pasternak** has been promoted to managing director with Accenture LLP.

**2002 Rhonda Leet** returned to her teacher-education roots when she wrote "Being Schooled: What This Teacher Learned in the American School System." Leet, who has a master's degree in education from Lesley University, taught for 12 years in one of the largest school districts in Wisconsin and her passion for educational reform still lives. She completed the manuscript of "Being Schooled" in the Mulva Library on campus. The book was published last June.

**2003 Julie Kuklinski** has been profiled in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel for her leadership involvement in the nonprofit program Women in Construction, a Mississippi-based organization that trains low-income women for trade careers in construction and helps place them in living-wage jobs. After a three-month, post-Hurricane Katrina volunteer stint to the Gulf Coast inspired her own service career path, Kuklinski now serves as the program's

director. *Kuklinski and her work were featured in our Summer 2011 issue.*

**2003 Lennie Rampone** has been named assistant coach for the Kelowna Chiefs hockey team in British Columbia, Canada.

**2005 Grant Markgraf** has joined CNL Financial Group as its new vice president of financial accounts for CNL Securities Corporation. The position has Markgraf responsible for business development in the real estate and alternative investment branches with CNL's Midwest operations.

**2005 Casey Rentmeester**, assistant professor of philosophy and religion at Finlandia University, has published "Heidegger and the Environment" (Rowman & Littlefield, 2015). Rentmeester's research interests are in environmental ethics, continental and Chinese philosophy.

**2006 Melinda Morella** has joined Imaginanium, the Green Bay-based advertising agency, as a business development specialist.

**2007 Lindsey Lubinski** has been promoted to regional sales manager for TAPCO (Traffic & Parking Control Co. Inc.) in Brown Deer, Wis.

**2007 Krista Perine** has accepted a position as a middle-school special-education teacher at CICS Bucktown, a kindergarten through eighth-grade charter school in Chicago.

**2008 Andy Marx** has been promoted to sales manager at Milwaukee Plate Glass Co. He also serves on the company's board.

**2008 Steve Strohmaier** has received the Good Conduct Award after

reaching his three-year anniversary in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was also presented with the Commandant's Coin for his volunteer work with the Michigan Special Olympics.

**2008 Lindsey Pionek** has accepted a position as an art director at HDMZ, a Chicago agency that specializes in science and health-care brands.

**2009 Mike Johnson**, who works for the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc, Wis., was profiled in the Herald Times Reporter for his work as group sales/facility rentals coordinator.

**2009 Renee (Delsart) Grimm** has accepted a position with the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.

**2009 Ryan Petersen** has joined the Madison Capitals hockey team as an assistant coach.

**2009 Nicholas Albert**, a chiropractor in Muskego, Wis., has been welcomed into the International Association of HealthCare Professionals.

**2011 Katherine Hickey** has accepted a position at Cambridge (Minn.) Chiropractic Clinic, where certifications in Graston Technique and RockTape will aid in her specialization with athletes and children.

**2011 Sarah Gray**, a second-year chemistry and physics teacher at Muskego (Wis.) High School, has been chosen as one of 34 national recipients for the Knowles Science Teaching Fellowships. KSTF works to improve STEM education for high school students across the U.S., with its fellowships providing stipends, resources and professional

development for its recipients.

**2011 Stephanie Czajka** has been hired as an inbound marketing project manager for Weidert Group Inc., an Appleton-based marketing agency.

**2011 Mike Burmesch** has joined Promontory Point Capital in Milwaukee as an investment-banking associate.

**2011 John Taylor** has joined Notre Dame Academy in Green Bay as the boys basketball coach.

**2012 Ryan Pepin** has joined Voya Financial Advisors, an independent broker-dealer, as a financial professional. He will be working out of the Danielson Insurance Agency in Kingsford, Mich.

**2013 Cody Keefer** has been promoted to sales and brand manager at Rusted Rooster Media and Hatch Marketing Group, sister companies that offer branding, marketing, and inclusive media strategies and production.

**2013 Cody Jones** has been promoted to sales representative and technical service manager for Hortau in the Midwest and Northeast, where he leads sales and service for farmers across six states.

**2014 Casey Belongia** has been named scouting assistant by the Jacksonville (Fla.) Jaguars.

**2014 Kristen Tichacek** has been hired by the Boulder Junction (Wis.) Chamber of Commerce as executive director.

**Bridget Krage O'Connor '93** has received the

Entrepreneurial Award from the Greater Green Bay Chamber of Commerce for her strategy and marketing communications company O'Connor Connective and its impact on the local business community. Among the staff at O'Connor Connective is **Rachel (Gonnering) Sonntag '06**, senior associate, who has worked at the expanding De Pere-based company since being hired as its first staff member. (Sonntag and O'Connor first worked together when Sonntag began her career as student intern under O'Connor's supervision in the office of communications at St. Norbert College.)

**Jordan Bischel '03** has been appointed as manager of the Wisconsin Woodchucks, a collegiate summer baseball team in the Northwoods League. **Derek McCarty '12** has been promoted to general manager of the Green Bay Bullfrogs, another Northwoods League team.

**Connor Romenesko '15** and **Tara Cunningham '15** have both accepted full-time service positions with Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC). Romenesko will be stationed in Atlanta, working at the Southern Center for Human Rights. Cunningham will be working with homeless youth in Yakima County (Wash.) through JVCNW.

**Share your news!** Submit your item at [snc.edu/go/keepintouch](http://snc.edu/go/keepintouch)

 Keep track and connect with fellow alumni on Facebook. [facebook.com/sncalumni](http://facebook.com/sncalumni)

# Ready to make a SPLASH?

**Last year's first-ever All Hands on Deck Day raised a record amount for the St. Norbert Fund – more than \$300,000 in a single day! This year, we're hoping to make an even bigger splash, by surpassing last year's record. With your help, we will; please give generously on April 27.**

## Speaking of splashes ...

When you give on All Hands on Deck Day this year, you'll have a unique opportunity to give a certain well-known figure in the college a refreshing dip. Follow all the action on April 27 at [giving.snc.edu](http://giving.snc.edu).



**Make a splash! Circle your calendar for All Hands On Deck Day!**

The St. Norbert Fund is the primary source of the financial aid on which some 98 percent of our students depend. When you give to the St. Norbert Fund, you give the gift of opportunity.

### Meal plan

We don't send much garbage to the landfill from our household of two, but all the same, we barely do as well as does the college's dining services team on their avowed quest for zero waste – and this is out of kitchens that serve more than 2,000 meals per day. It's hard to believe. But when I was back in those kitchens just the other day for a last-minute photo-op for our cover story, lunch and dinner had already been cooked, served and cleared away – and there was nothing in the garbage can but a piece of greasy cling-film. Reporting this feature so inspired me that I took some tips home: maintaining a neat fridge; a strategic purchasing plan (I made one!), flexible menu planning. I trimmed a bunch of parsley like no parsley has been trimmed before at my hands – and we're still enjoying homemade parsley butter on our salmon.

We'd love to know what you think of this feature, or indeed of anything else in this issue. And, if you're one of the representative sample who receives our every-other-year reader survey later this spring, please do consider participating in that, too. We thank you!

*Susan Allen*

### WORDS & PICTURES

**Editor:** Susan Allen. **Contributors:** Mike Counter MLS '14, John Devroy, Mariah Doughman '18, Brooke Kazik, Jeff Kurowski, Anja Marshall '17, MaryBeth Matzek, Melanie (Radzicki) McManus '83, Amy Mrotek '16, Paul Nicolaus '05, Nina (Nolan) Rouse '07, Trisha Shepherd '96, Tony Staley, Jerry Turba '74, Jill Wiesman, Corey Wilson.

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**Executive Director of Communications & Marketing:** Drew Van Fossen

### TALK TO US!

We love to hear from you, and rely on you to keep us posted. You can find us at [www.snc.edu/magazine](http://www.snc.edu/magazine), on Facebook, via [magazine@snc.edu](mailto:magazine@snc.edu) or 920-403-3048, or at:

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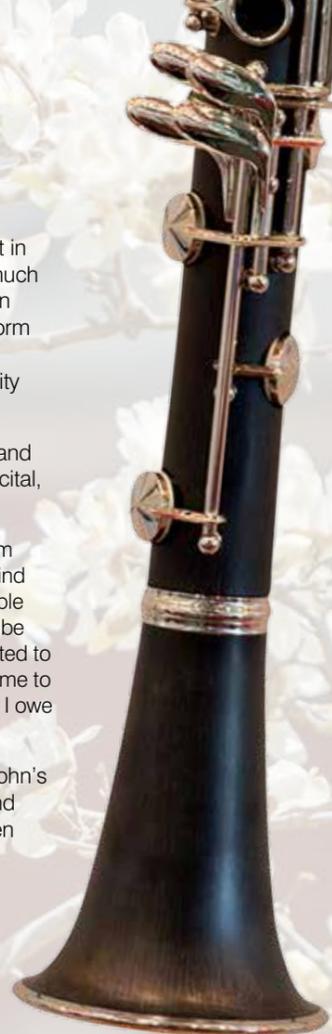
### Super-senior recital

If **Jaime Notzen '16** experienced any pre-performance nerves before her senior recital, she could take comfort in the knowledge that she was sharing the stage with a much more experienced performer. Notzen, a third-generation clarinetist, invited her mother and grandmother to perform with her. Mom Karen was feeling out of practice but grandma Nancy Morbeck, who still plays in a community band, was not so shy.

Morbeck flew up from Chicago for several rehearsals, and the duo were due to take the stage March 11 for the recital, shared with **Katie Gajdostik '16**.

"I think it's so special that my grandma agreed to perform with me," says Notzen. "She says music has kept her mind sharp, and she's one of the most fun, spontaneous people I know! Hopefully the genes are strong, because I won't be putting down my clarinet anytime soon. I am just so excited to be on stage with her. My mom and grandma convinced me to pursue music, which is such an enriching part of my life. I owe it all to them!"

The duo planned to perform a movement of Mendelssohn's Concert Piece for Two Clarinets. **Sam Mead '14**, a friend – and Wind Ensemble principal clarinetist before Notzen succeeded him – made a guest appearance for the remaining movements.



### Greening the desert

When **Mohammed Al Muhanna** went home to Saudi Arabia for winter break, he took some green and gold along with him. Al Muhanna, a student in our ESL program, received the Packers sweatshirt as a gift from **Lois Velicer** (Humanities) and her husband. The Packers' Saudi fan posed for this snap while on a camping trip in the Ha'il region, in the north of the country. Even the camel got in on the act, sporting a 1970s-era fan sticker donated by Velicer's father.

## Calendar

### April

- 2** Milwaukee Art Museum Tour with the **Rev. Jim Neilson, O.Praem., '88**
- 3** Milwaukee Mass and Brunch
- 8-9** Alumni College
- 19** Fresh Ink Composition Concert
- 27** All Hands on Deck Day

### May

- 9** Lake Geneva Golf Outing
- 12-21** Knights on Broadway Spring Showcase
- 15** Commencement
- 23-25** Sport & Society Conference

### June

- 10** 13th Annual Green Knight Golf Classic, Egg Harbor
- 25** 90th birthday party for the **Rev. Rowland De Peaux, O.Praem., '48**
- 21-30** Summer Music Theatre presents "Cats"

### July

- 4** Firecracker Run
- 20-24** Summer Music Theatre presents "Into the Woods"

### August

- 2** Alumni & Parent Night at Knights on the Fox
- 28** Convocation



**One of history's most intriguing women takes center stage in Theatre Studies' production of "Emilie, La Marquise du Châtelet, Defends Her Life Tonight." This fast, funny rediscovery of 18th-century scientific genius Emilie du Châtelet explores both her loves and her legacy.**

**More at [snc.edu/calendar](http://snc.edu/calendar).**



### Best in class

Milo sits in good company in the Boston Globe's "Best Hip-Hop Albums of 2015"; just below Drake but several places above Erykah Badu. It's a milieu where aliases rule and Milo (sometimes styled as milo) may be better known to his St. Norbert classmates as **Rory Ferreira '14**.

"Picture a Chicago-born, Maine-raised millennial," says the Globe in its top-10 list published in December, "who cut his teeth in Milwaukee's suddenly bubbling rap scene, and who twists and folds words like Rubik's cubes and origami cranes. That's milo. When he unpacks lines like 'It's him who wrote the Tao of the pessimist, as thespians maneuver through the now and its messiness,' you get a sense what you're in for." In his album "So the Flies Don't Come," Milo, the Globe's Julian Benbow writes, translates meandering thoughts of complacency and solitude into a language all his own, "and does it largely on sumptuous production by Kenny Segal that makes him sound isolated, yet still inviting."

Milo has released several albums since his first solo mixtape in 2011. His song "Kenosha, WI" was published by Johns Hopkins University Press in a 2012 issue of the journal Postmodern Culture.



### Recommended viewing

Ed Policy, vice president and general counsel for the Green Bay Packers, talks professional football and more on the December edition of "Conversations From St. Norbert College." Policy, who started with the Packers in 2012, has an extensive background that includes work in law and labor relations in professional sports, as well as facility construction and development. In the half-hour interview with **Kevin Quinn** (Schneider School), he discusses the Packers' development efforts in the area surrounding Lambeau Field. Find out more at [youtube.com/stnorbertcollege](http://youtube.com/stnorbertcollege).

### History on ice

**Coach Tim Coghlin** tallied his 500th career win Feb. 6 as the Green Knights beat Northland College 3-0 in a Northern Collegiate Hockey Association game. Coghlin earned his 500th win in his 680th career game, improving his career record to 500-130-50. It marked the third-fastest game total to 500 wins in NCAA hockey history, only behind UMass-Dartmouth's John Rolli (658 games) and Bemidji State's Bob Peters (677 games).





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## Parting Shot / Seat of Learning

“Never trust anyone who has not brought a book with them.” – *Lemony Snicket*

