

NOLAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

July 2021



Alumni Relations Coordinator Patricia Gilmore Pierret '78 ppierret@nchstx.org

STAY CONNECTED

Update your contact information

We want to hear from you! Please email Pat Pierret your contact information, job, education, and family updates. We want to be sure we have the most up to date information so we can mail and email all upcoming events, reunions and opportunities to get involved.

Send your news to us via NCHS
Website and we will highlight it in the next newsletter.

Follow us on social media



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@NolanCatholicHS



FROM THE ALUMNI RELATIONS COORDINATOR

In Ecclesiastes, the writer outlines for the reader a calendar of sorts for when it is time to laugh and time to cry, time to plant and time to reap, etc. Now is the time for me to retire.

It's been 14 years since I started in this position as Alumni Relations Coordinator for Nolan Catholic. The title has changed a few times, the personnel at Nolan have changed, the times have changed, but the people and my love for my "job" has changed only in that it has increased.

I will always contend that I had "the best job" at Nolan Catholic for 14 years. The acquaintances and long-lasting friends I made will be treasured by me for years to come. Thank you for that experience. With your assistance and that of my department, I have matured tremendously in this position and my life. We have made great strides in creating relationships and maintaining relationships with each other and Nolan Catholic.

My youngest daughter, Ann ('10) is getting married at the end of the month and moving to another state; my son, Geoffrey ('07) and his wife are having a baby in October; and my granddaughter, Eliza, compliments of my oldest daughter, Kimberly ('05) and her husband, will be two in November. I'm looking forward to spending more time with all of them and traveling with my husband. It's time!

Nolan Catholic has been a big part of my life since 1975 and will continue to be a part of my life. It is poised to set the world on fire. Our alma mater graduates the best of the best and you are one of those who are making a difference.

This is my last Alumni e-Newsletter. July 31 is my last day. I will keep all of you in my prayers and hope you will do the same for me.

It's time for a new adventure, time to start on a new path on the journey. Let's all continue the relationship.

For any assistance you may need after July 31, contact Leah Rios, NCHS president.

Thank you.

Pat-

ALUMNI BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: Mike's Garden Center

Join fellow alumni in registering your business on the <u>alumni web page</u> of the <u>Nolan Catholic website</u>. Send your name, class year, the name of your business and a link to your site. You can also join the <u>Nolan Alum Biz page</u> on Facebook. The e-news would like to highlight your business. For information on all of these, contact <u>Pat Pierret</u>, <u>Alumni Relations Coordinator</u>.

Mike's Garden Center

Family & Vikings are one in the same at Mike's Garden Centers! Mike Cook, Sr. started MGC in 1972. Mike and his wife Donna sent their 5 children (Mike Jr. ('87), Jennifer ('88), Matthew ('92), Jill ('94), Max ('96) to Nolan beginning in 1983. MGC continues their support of Nolan and Catholic education for over 38 years.

In 1997, Mike's oldest son, Mike Jr., merged his own company, Cook's Landscape Design, with Mike's Garden Center. Dad and son worked side by side for over 22 years. In October 2019, after the unexpected death of Mike Sr, his oldest son took over the reigns as owner and president of Mike's Garden Centers.

"I want to continue the strong legacy my dad and mom started in support of Nolan and the importance of Catholic education. I am proud to carry on that tradition." said Mike Jr. Mike and his wife Mia have four children. Their daughters, Madeline ('14), Kayla ('15), & Bridget ('18) have graduated from Nolan Catholic and their son Connor will be a senior this 21-22 academic year.

MGC provides a wide variety of services from plants and trees, pots and wind chimes, seeds and bulbs, mulch and fertilizer, statues and bird houses, questions about landscape designs, insect problems, and a customer service that will RETAIL OPERATIONS -Trees Shrubs 817-568-9797 Bedding Plants 555 E. Hwy 114 Southlake, TX 76092 Fountains & Statuaries Organic Fertilizers Native Plants -Pottery -Soil Health Products Landscape Division Garden Center's 5703 Crowley Rd. Fort Worth, TX 76134 817-568-9797 -Natural Disease Controls Weed Control Solutions Perennials & Herbs -Cactus & Succulents LANDSCAPE DIVISION -Landscape design Tree trimming -Tree removal -Stump removal Landscape cleanup Seasonal color -Plant diagnosis Lawn maintenance -Grass seeding & sodding -Mulching beds -Lawn aeration

be sure to help your green thumb grow! MGC employees - current and Nolan alumni, family members and hardworking people - are here to serve your gardening needs. Watch this video to check us out!

And Mike's Garden Centers are not your typical year-round nursery. In the Fall, the garden centers transform into a magical Christmas land with snow globes, lights, trees, nativity scenes and a display of Christmas you do not want to miss!

Mike's Garden Centers is grateful for each person who takes the time to walk through our doors. We are proud to support Nolan Catholic High School! Go Vikings!

Mike's Garden Center has two locations and a Landscape Department.

5703 Crowley Road Fort Worth, TX 76134 817-293-8800

555 E SH 114 Frontage Rd Southlake, TX 76092 817-251-2620

Landscape Design Department 817-568-9797

www.mikesgardencenters.com/ Instagram Facebook

EVENTS

Sept. 4: Catholic Bowl at The Star in Frisco.

Sept. 18: Class of '75 Reunion. Nolan Catholic High School IDEA Building. Contacts: Carol Walsh Leito, Jim Franko

Oct. 1: 2nd Annual Nolan Catholic Golf Tournament benefiting the Viking Club. Register to play or be a sponsor.

Oct. 22 - 24: Homecoming Weekend

Oct. 22-23: Class of '71 Reunion. Location TBD. Contact: <u>Teacy Thompson Bernardy</u>

Oct. 23: Class of '81 Reunion. Edna Gladney Center casual dress. Contact: Christine Moore-Holtz

EN MEMORIAM



May perpetual light shine upon them

Ernest Klarich '66

SCHEDULE A TOUR

Our hourlong tours are offered in person or via a live virtual tour. An admissions representative will answer all questions and provide a customized experience that is tailored to you and your student's interests.

EXPERIENCE

THE POSSIBILITIES

The Admissions Office would like to invite you to experience the many renovations to our campus! We are proud to offer an opportunity to experience the Truth, Beauty, and Goodness that is present every day at Nolan Catholic High School.

While you are here, we encourage parents to consider if Nolan Catholic is the right choice for your child's education. This is your chance to meet students, moderators, and coaches specifically in your child's areas of interest.

It is not too late to register for a personal tour of our campus! Please visit

https://www.nolancatholic.org/events-and-tours
to register with our admissions team. We
look forward to seeing you!



For more information, or to schedule an on-campus tour, contact Donna O'Malley, Executive Director for Admissions & Enrollment, at domalley@nchstx.org, or at 817-395-0245. Visit

https://www.nolancatholic.org/application-process for application assistance.

VIRTUAL TOUR

Click here to watch our virtual, student-led tour of the Nolan Catholic High School campus. Get an overview of the Truth, Beauty, and Goodness that permeates every corner of our school.

AROUND THE CIRCLE



SERVICE AWARD

Scholar athlete, Jeremiah Bledsoe '22, received the Hershey Heartwarming Hero Award for his community service initiative to support the elderly. He is a rising Senior, and for the past 10 years, Jeremiah has been visiting local nursing homes donating items to elderly residents. Click here to read more about Jeremiah and his exemplary service. Esto Dux, Jeremiah!



PLANNED GIVING

Please consider a planned gift to Nolan Catholic and/or the Diocese of Fort Worth. Join the legacy society today and see how your gift makes a lasting impact.

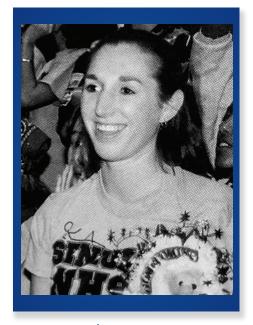
Visit https://bit.ly/CatholicLegacy or contact Renée Underwood, CFRE at 817-533-7242.

Tuition only covers 80% of the cost to educate a student at Nolan Catholic. Gifts to the Nolan Catholic Fund help to bridge this critical gap in the operating budget and touch nearly every component of school life, thereby benefiting each and every Nolan Catholic student. Our goal is \$150,000 and we have raised \$145,000! Please help us reach our goal!

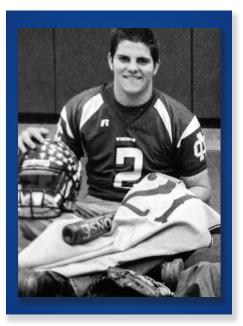
Join us today by going online to www.nolancatholic.org/give!

ALUMNI FIND

July 2021



July 2021 #1

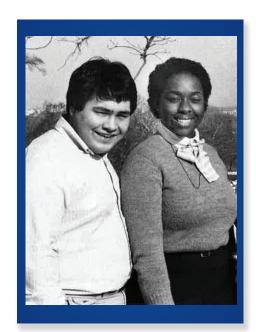


July 2021 #2



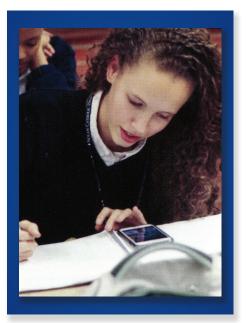
July 2021 #3

June 2021



June 2021 #1

Steve Nieswiadomy '84 Francisca Welch '85



June 2021 #2

Micah Keen '20



June 2021 #3

Michelle Pearson Locke '68 Sr. Eleanor

July 2021 Class Notes

1980s

Julie Green '82 stopped by for a tour of the new facilities. She got to visit with the goats. (*Photo 1*)

Carlos Flores '87, Fort Worth City Councilmember for District 2, <u>has</u> <u>been appointed to the MedStar board of directors.</u>

2000s

Tommy Byrnes '00 and his wife, Keeley, delivered a beautiful baby girl, Brightly Darling, on June 12. Look for Tommy's product, Jalapa Jar salsa straight from New York City, to be in stores in North Texas soon. (*Photo 2*)

Monica Woods Kornblum '07 opened a Speech Therapy private practice called Language Lions Speech Therapy. Monica is offering her services to Nolan students with free speech and language screening at the beginning of the school year for parents and students who have speech and/or language concerns.

David Tibbets '07 stopped by for a tour of the new facilities while in between jobs. David starts in mid-July with Moroch, an advertising firm in Dallas. David and his wife, Jill Frankovich Tibbets' 07, returned to the DFW area in April 2020. Jill is working at Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth.

Glen Brockenbush '08, a reporter/ writer for "The Lawton (OK) Constitution" won 1st place and 3rd place in the Sports Story category from the Oklahoma Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest.

Taylor McCraw Pokluda '08 and her husband, Taylor, are the proud parents of Brooks born on May 25. (*Photo 3*)

Hazel Bridget Austin is the baby daughter of **Katie Simeroth Austin** '08 and Michael Austin. Hazel Bridget was born on June 8 in Lawrence, Kansas. (*Photos 4 & 5*)

Cortni Breen Sanderson '09 is hosting an online party for Usborne Books & More. Usborne books are unique and interactive books for ages newborn through young adult. Join the party!

Robert Ratliff '09 and his wife, Natalie, welcomed their first child, Robert Wyatt, on March 26. (Photo 6)

Billy Schwennsen '09 and Brooke Whitenburg were married on May 7, 2021 at Deep in the Heart Farms in Brenham, Texas. They met in graduate school at The Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M. Billy is an Intelligence Analyst with the FBI in the Bureau's Fort Worth Office, and Brooke is a Industrial Hygiene Project Manager with CTEH, Inc. The couple received their undergraduate degrees in 2013 (Billy from A&M, Brooke from Texas

Tech), and their graduate degrees from A&M in 2015. Billy and Brooke now live in Saginaw, Texas. (*Photo 7*)

2010s

Lyndsey Helyer Bierschwale '10 and her husband, Kyle, brought Logan into the world on May 13 just two weeks before Lyndsey served as maid of honor for her sister, Kelsey Helyer Kreul '12. (Photo 8)

Kelsey Helyer '12 married Stephen Kreul on May 29, 2021 at St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church in Arlington, Texas. They met in college at the University of Arkansas. After their honeymoon in St. Lucia, they will reside in Granbury, Texas. (Photo 9)

Jack Diseker '17 will be attending Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health's Master's program in the fall.

Emily Keoughan '17 graduated from Angelo State University in May with a BS in Exercise Science.

Richard Gilpin '17, Isabelle Landrum '17 and Madi Rotzoll '17 graduated from University of Alabama in May.

Sarah Peterson '17 graduated from Creighton University in May. She is preparing for her nurse's license and is looking forward to working as a Labor & Delivery nurse in Omaha, NE.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Fr. Moon, NCHS Chaplain, will include your prayer requests in daily and weekly NCHS Masses. Submit your prayer requests to <u>Pat Pierret</u>.

July 2021 Class Notes





1. Julie Green '82

2. Tommy Byrnes '00



3. Taylor McCraw Pokluda '08



4. Katie Simeroth Austin '08



5. Katie Simeroth Austin '08

July 2021 Class Notes



6 Robert Ratliff'09



7. Billy Schwennsen '09



 ${\small 8}\ Lyndsey\ Helyer\ Bierschwale\ `10\\$



9. Kelsey Helyer '12

33rd Paul Knippel Memorial Golf Tournament

Classmates and friends gathered on Saturday, June 12 for the 33rd Paul Knippel Memorial Golf Tournament. Co-founder Chris Anthony was on the winning team for the fourth time. During the 2021-22 academic year, the Paul Knippel Scholarship Fund will provide \$25,000 in tuition assistance for grant-in-aid eligible Nolan Catholic students.

Special recognition this year goes to BNSF Railway for making a \$1,500 donation to the Fund. Thank you to all who made a contribution of \$50 or more above the entry fee:

John Anthony ('82); Charlie Carden; Lee Friday ('78); David Handler ('78); Kyle Handler, Mike Handler ('74); Phil Handler ('67); Liz Hood ('78); Jerry Johnston ('78); Beth Knippel Kuykendall ('81); Susan Swihart Knippel ('76); Ann Lawler; Louri O'Leary ('78): Pat Pierret ('78): Mark Smith ('77); Frances Soechting ('78); DE Staats; Craig and Jean Stevens ('78)









