

# The Hill

McDANIEL COLLEGE | FALL 2026



*College ties can ne'er be broken*

THE MOMENTS AND PEOPLE THAT MAKE McDANIEL HOME

# The Hill

McDaniel College  
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Editor: Lindsay Sherman

Staff Writers: Cheryl Knauer,  
Melody Morris

Staff Designers: Samantha Arellano,  
Jamie Reams Leinauer, Katie Leonardis

Staff Photographer/Videographer:  
Curtis Blank

Proofreader: Joannah Hill

Alumni correspondence to:  
alumni@mcdaniel.edu  
410-857-2296 or  
The Office of Alumni Engagement  
McDaniel College  
2 College Hill  
Westminster, MD 21157-4390

All other correspondence to:  
ocm@mcdaniel.edu  
410-857-2290 or  
The Office of Communications  
and Marketing  
McDaniel College  
2 College Hill  
Westminster, MD 21157-4390

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On the cover:  
Celebrating nearly 160 years of the people  
and moments that make generations of  
Green Terrors call McDaniel home.



## FEATURES

# 12

GREEK LIFE REBOUNDS  
ON THE HILL

# 22

BUILDING ON McDANIEL’S  
FOUNDATION OF COMMUNITY

# 26

McDANIEL MOMENTS:  
TRADITIONS WE LOVE



Don’t forget to check out the online edition  
for digital content and expanded features at  
[mcdaniel.edu/magazine!](http://mcdaniel.edu/magazine!)

LETTER FROM THE  
*President*



Dear McDaniel Community,

There is nothing quite like the energy on the Hill each fall as the campus comes alive. As first-year and transfer students cross through Ward Memorial Arch, faculty welcome new students into their classrooms, and fans fill the stadium, we are reminded that McDaniel is much more than a collection of buildings or academic programs. Relationships are the core here — relationships that inspire us to learn, to lead, and to care for one another.

This kind of community does not happen by accident. It is shaped by generations of Green Terrors creating experiences that help new students find a sense of belonging and alumni forge an enduring connection. In this issue of The Hill, you'll explore long-standing campus traditions (Ringing Old Main bell) while discovering new ones (Tap the Light). You'll read about the rich heritage and vibrant future of Greek life, from organizations with nearly a century of history to newer fraternities and sororities that reflect the diversity of today's student body. You'll meet two new academic leaders whose visions for teaching, scholarship, and student success will help shape the future of the college.

What ties each of these stories together is a simple but powerful idea: belonging matters. When students feel seen, valued, and connected, they thrive academically, personally, and professionally. When alumni remain engaged, they strengthen opportunities for those who follow them. And when faculty, staff, donors, volunteers, and friends invest their time and talents in McDaniel, they ensure that the college continues to grow stronger with each generation.

Thank you for being part of the McDaniel community and for helping ensure that every Green Terror finds a place to belong. I hope you enjoy this issue and the many stories that celebrate what makes this college — and the people who call it home — so extraordinary.

With gratitude,

President Julia Jasken



CONTENTS

MISSIVES TO AND  
FROM THE HILL

4

MAIL

NEWS AROUND CAMPUS  
AND BEYOND

5

CARPE DIEM

SPOTLIGHT ON  
ATHLETICS

8

GREEN AND GOLD

12

GREEK LIFE REBOUNDS  
ON THE HILL

22

BUILDING ON MCDANIEL'S  
FOUNDATION OF COMMUNITY

26

MCDANIEL MOMENTS:  
TRADITIONS WE LOVE

ADVANCING  
THE VISION

36

INVESTED

LIFE AFTER COLLEGE

40

ALUMNI UPDATES

LESSONS I TOOK  
FROM THE HILL

56

KEEP CLIMBING



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I recently received the spring edition of The Hill; I always look forward to reading it. However, why is there nothing about how the current athletic teams and athletes are doing? ... I would think that you [have] some kind of list of accomplishments that you could include in The Hill, like Centennial Conference Championships (individual and team), All Americans, and NCAA Champions.

— Steve Anuszewski '80

*We heard you, Steve! In this issue's "Green & Gold" section, in addition to learning about the college's revived athletic pep band and upcoming marching band, we are pleased to share highlights from the 2025-26 Green Terror Athletics seasons.*



### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CAMPUS LANDMARK CHALLENGE WINNER!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANDREA "ANDIE" STAISLOFF YOUNGK '82 FOR BEING OUR RANDOMLY SELECTED WINNER OF THE POP QUIZ IN THE SPRING 2026 ISSUE!

Thank you to all who submitted responses:

- Carl Feibusch '24
- Elizabeth "Liz" Fyfe '24
- Barb and Mark Gieselman
- Nicki James '26
- Kathleen Golub P'18
- Amanda "Mandy" Quarantillo '18
- Tyler Wilson '95, P'21, P'23



### SOUND OFF

THE MAIL DEPARTMENT IS YOUR PLACE TO SOUND OFF ABOUT WHAT YOU READ IN THE HILL.

Letters should include your full name, address, phone number, or email address so we can contact you for confirmation. Letters may be edited for length, style, clarity, and/or civility.

**Mail:** Lindsay Sherman, The Hill magazine, McDaniel College, 2 College Hill, Westminster, MD 21157  
**Email:** ocm@mcdaniel.edu with "The Hill magazine" as the subject line.



### BRYAN GATELY '83 JOINS McDANIEL COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

McDaniel College has named Bryan Gately '83 to its Board of Trustees. Gately, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in Communication, is currently executive director and banker with J.P. Morgan Private Bank in Baltimore.

He says that community service is central to his life. As a black belt, Gately has trained at-risk youth and Baltimore City police officers in martial arts. Currently, he is president of School of The Way, a mentoring and martial arts organization focused on youth development. He also has volunteered with Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Maryland.

Gately serves as a trustee at Loyola High School and on the board for the American Heart Association's Greater Maryland division.



### McDANIEL AND FREDERICK COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS PARTNER TO CREATE NEW PATHWAY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

McDaniel College is partnering with Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) to support the recruitment and preparation of special education teachers.

FCPS was awarded an \$855,646 state grant through the Grow Your Own Educators Grant Program. The funding will allow school staff who are conditionally licensed to teach special education to continue working while pursuing McDaniel's post-baccalaureate certificate in Special Education. The 29-credit program leads to either grades 1-8 or grades 6-adult licensure. The grant covers the cost for coursework and assessments needed for full licensure.

"By partnering with Frederick County Public Schools in this way, we are able to support educators who are already committed to making a meaningful difference in the lives of their students achieve full licensure and help address the critical need for highly qualified special education teachers in Maryland," says Assistant Dean of Education Tracey Lucas. "The Grow Your Own grant is McDaniel's most recent effort to support innovative pathways for teacher preparation in Maryland."



## McDANIEL ALUMS HONORED BY THE DAILY RECORD

For the second consecutive year, a graduating senior from McDaniel College was honored with the Top 100 Women Scholarship presented by The Daily Record, which recognizes “high-achieving Maryland women who are making an impact through their leadership, community service, and mentoring.”

Nicki James ’26 graduated summa cum laude and as a College Scholar with a major in Social Work and a minor in Political Science. She was selected as the student attending a Maryland college or university who best reflects the leadership and service qualities exemplified by Maryland’s Top 100 Women honorees.

She is pursuing a Master of Social Work at the University of Pennsylvania through the School of Social Policy and Practice, where she will complete a field practicum with Philadelphia’s Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity, while pursuing a Certificate in Law through University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School.

The Top 100 Women recognition also extends to Tracy Imm ’87, a Communication alum, who was inducted into the Circle of Excellence after being named to The Daily Record’s Top 100 Women list three times.

Imm has taught as an adjunct lecturer in the college’s Communication and Cinema and Economics and Business Administration departments. She is an experienced communications and marketing professional based in the Baltimore area, with senior leadership experience working for global brands in aerospace and defense, energy, healthcare, insurance, and financial services. She is currently a management consultant and leadership coach. Imm also serves as an advisory council member for the McDaniel Women’s Leadership Network.



## McDANIEL ADDS NEW UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS IN ASTROPHYSICS, ASTRONOMY, AND ENGINEERING MECHANICS

McDaniel College has received approval from the Maryland Higher Education Commission to offer new undergraduate majors in Astrophysics, Astronomy, and Engineering Mechanics. The new programs will be available beginning in fall 2027.

“Astrophysics, Astronomy, and Engineering Mechanics share a common foundation in physics and mathematics, one that prepares students to push the boundaries of scientific knowledge and engineering applications,” says Physics Professor and Department Chair Apollo Mian. “All three programs embrace hands-on learning, allowing students to work closely with faculty on undergraduate research, contribute to peer-reviewed publications, and take part in internships. That kind of experience, at the undergraduate level, is what sets a McDaniel education apart.”

## FRIENDS SCHOOL OF BALTIMORE AND McDANIEL COLLEGE FORM PARTNERSHIP

Friends School of Baltimore has formed a new partnership with McDaniel College through its University Partnership Program, connecting students with higher education institutions that share a commitment to academic excellence and access.

The agreement provides guaranteed admission to McDaniel for students from Friends School who are in good academic standing with a minimum GPA of 86% and who meet standard application requirements, starting with those applying to McDaniel for fall 2027 enrollment.

In addition to Friends School, McDaniel College has created admission pathways for students at Saint John’s Catholic Prep in Maryland, Saint Joseph Academy in New Jersey, and Berks Catholic High School, Delone Catholic High School, and York Catholic in Pennsylvania.



## EMILY BRYNES M.S. ’24 RECOGNIZED AS CARROLL COUNTY 2026 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Emily Brynes M.S. ’24 has been named Carroll County’s 2026 Teacher of the Year. She is among seven finalists to be considered for the 2027 Maryland Teacher of the Year, who will then compete for the title of National Teacher of the Year.

Brynes, who earned a master’s degree from McDaniel in Educational Leadership in 2024, teaches business and entrepreneurship courses at Westminster High School and is chair of the Business Department and School Improvement Team.

A National Board Certified Teacher in Career and Technology Education, Brynes also holds Maryland Administrator I Certification.

She is a two-time recipient of Westminster High School’s Unsung Hero Award, an honor granted by students to recognize “outstanding performance and lasting contributions.” In addition to teaching, Brynes serves as a class advisor and advisor for multiple student organizations.





# MARCHING INTO A NEW ERA OF MUSIC ON ***THE HILL***

VETERAN MUSIC EDUCATOR BRIAN FRAZIER INVITES  
THE MCDANIEL COMMUNITY TO HELP BUILD A NEW  
MARCHING BAND LEGACY

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN

Brian Frazier has been making music on the Hill for three decades. He began as a camp counselor with the McDaniel (formerly Western Maryland) Summer Band Camp, eventually becoming a teacher and then running the jazz program for the camp. Over 25 years — from the mid-1990s until its last year in 2019 — Frazier treasured the opportunity to bring music to the masses.

While pursuing a 31-year career teaching instrumental music in Baltimore County and Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS), Frazier played in the college's concert band and jazz band for events on campus.

After retiring from CCPS in 2025, he came back to the Hill as an adjunct lecturer teaching jazz ensemble and to start a new athletic pep band on campus, which played during the 2025-26 academic year at home football games, basketball games, and other campus events.

In 2027, he looks forward to growing the program as the Green Terror Marching Band, bringing a marching band legacy back to life after more than 50 years.

The Western Maryland College marching band disbanded in the early 1970s, and while there were some efforts to start a pep band in the early 2000s and 2010s, they've never lasted. As extracurriculars only, they lacked significant institutional backing to help them grow. That's why he's excited about the new era of a co-curricular marching and pep band program on the Hill, which is being supported and prioritized by college leadership as McDaniel puts a renewed focus on campus vibrancy.

Read on for more in Frazier's own words.



“We’re crafting a new legacy on the Hill, and I want people who want to help build that from the ground up.”

WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE MARCHING BAND AND PEP BAND AND HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER STUDENT ENSEMBLES?

“We are tasked with supporting the athletic programs and engaging the audience during breaks in play. When there’s not something exciting happening on the field or on the court, we provide entertainment for the audience. In addition to creating music, we are adding movement, design, and color to that. We create an immersive experience for our audiences.”

WHAT WILL MAKE THE GREEN TERROR MARCHING BAND DISTINCTIVE?

“Everything. Everything we’re doing is unique. First, most colleges our size don’t have a marching band. My hope is that others see that we can get together 20 or 30 students and put together something unique and meaningful. And maybe they’ll realize they can do it, too.

Second, our stadium is unique with the drive-in style and tailgating on the Hill. Our fans aren’t sitting in the stadium seats. So, we’re going to create our formations so that we’re playing to all sides around the field rather than just to the bleachers.

We’re also going to combine traditional and show marching band styles with rock band elements. We’ll have guitar, bass, keyboard, and possibly even singers for our performances. The students will design and choose our music arrangements and choreography, as well as our uniforms. And we plan to change our uniform every four years or so. Our marching band members will truly have the ownership of building this as their own performance ensemble.”

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR IDEAL MARCHING BAND MEMBER?

“My dream marching band member is one with a ton of enthusiasm that wants to do cool things with music. The biggest priority is finding people who really want to be here and want to create something special. We’re crafting a new legacy on the Hill, and I want people who want to help build that from the ground up.”

WHAT DO YOU WANT ALUMNI TO KNOW?

“Music very much still has a place here on the Hill, and we’d love to have anybody involved as we’re building this. If you were a member of the marching band in the past or just love to play an instrument, we would welcome you to perform with us. Polish up the tuba that you haven’t touched in a few decades and come out and join us to bring energy to football and basketball games this year. We’d love to have your experience as we build a legacy that we can look back on in 20 or 30 years and be proud of the way we’ve reinvented this program.”

ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS

IN ADDITION TO THE PEP BAND STARTING UP, THE 2025-26 ACADEMIC YEAR WAS FULL OF HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE GREEN TERROR ATHLETICS PROGRAMS AND ITS STUDENT-ATHLETES.

- WOMEN’S BASKETBALL:**
- Women’s basketball won the 2026 Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Tournament Championship and were Centennial Conference (CC) Championship semifinalists.
  - Elaina Beckett ’26 was a WBCA All American and a D3 Hoops All American, made the First Team All Region, was the CC Player of the Year and MVP of the ECAC Championship team, and is third in school history with 1,492 career points scored.

- MEN’S WRESTLING:**
- Thomas Monn ’26 finished third at the NCAA Championships, was a three-time All American, three-time regional champion, four-time Centennial champion, four-time Wrestler of the Year, and is the college’s all-time wins record holder with 146.

- CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK & FIELD:**
- McDaniel College hosted its first track meet since 2018 thanks to the donor-funded renovation of The Dr. Richard A. Clower ’50 track.
  - Jack Sears ’26 was named NCAA All Region in cross country (the college’s first in 21 years), Second Team All-CC (first in 20 years), was the ECAC Champion in the 1,500 meter and 5,000 meter races, and set several program records.

- MEN’S SOCCER:**
- Made it to the CC playoffs and ECAC playoffs.

- MEN’S BASKETBALL:**
- Made it to the CC playoffs and ECAC playoffs.

- BASEBALL:**
- Made it to the CC semifinals.
  - Graduate student Shane Daly ’25 was named Centennial Player of the Year, was a three-time All-Centennial Conference player, set the single-season record with 10 home runs, was the fourth player in program history with more than 200 hits, and was only the second player in CC history to win both Rookie of the Year and Player of the Year in his career.

- MEN’S GOLF:**
- Finished third place in the CC.



# GREEK

# LIFE

AFTER PANDEMIC-ERA DECLINES, GREEK LIFE HAS A RENEWED FOCUS ON THE VALUES, BELONGING, AND IDENTITY THAT SERVE AS ITS FOUNDATION

## REBOUNDS ON THE HILL

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN

**“Greek life on the Hill feels more unified than ever to me,” Amanda Gelber, senior director of student engagement, says of the 11 active fraternities and sororities on campus. Gelber joined McDaniel in fall 2019, right before the COVID-19 pandemic rocked what the world knew about healthcare, higher ed, and the importance of community.**

In addition to college students being faced with social distancing and altered college experiences, recruitment in the years that immediately followed took a hit. Incoming students whose high school experiences were marked by isolation found it difficult to find their place and their identity on campuses across the country.

But in the 2025-26 academic year, Gelber finally started to see the trends changing on campus and nationally: Students are craving belonging and leadership opportunities again, and in many cases, they are seeking it in organizations that share their values.

“COVID destroyed our Greek life for a few years, and it’s been a really long climb to get our numbers back up,” she says. “Now, students whose high school experiences weren’t interrupted by COVID are viewing leadership and engagement differently. They want to lead, they want to get involved, and they want unification between groups.”

As of May 2026, 12.2% of the McDaniel student population was a member of a fraternity or sorority. “I’m proud of all of our organizations for the work they have done on recruitment in recent years to get us back up to over 200 members,” Gelber says.

Part of that success can be attributed to collaboration between student leaders and college staff on education and advocacy. Through Greek Life 101 sessions, they tackle stereotypes, stigma, and hazing head-on.

“We really challenge the stereotypes here at McDaniel. Greek life isn’t just ‘buying your friends,’” Gelber says. “Our focus on values-based recruitment, supporting each chapter with regularly scheduled visits, and a large anti-hazing campaign has helped students see that Greek life at McDaniel is a place where you can find people who share your values and learn life skills that you’ll take with you into your career.”

Despite ups and downs in numbers over the years, the impact of fraternities and sororities at McDaniel isn’t new. Many organizations — whether local or national — have had a place on the Hill for more than 100 years. As populations change on campus and in society, people are seeking new communities where they belong. The evolution of fraternity and sorority life at McDaniel has in many ways been a reflection of the evolution of society.

From local to national, shared interests to shared backgrounds, McDaniel Greek life provides opportunities for students to create lifelong bonds with fraternity brothers and sorority sisters.



# FROM LOCAL TO NATIONAL



Phi Delta Theta

## TWO OF THE COLLEGE'S OLDEST NATIONAL CHAPTERS BEGAN AS LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

For the uninitiated, the difference between local and national fraternity and sorority organizations may be a mystery. In some cases, they are even grounded in the traditions of secret societies that were formed when Western Maryland College forbade fraternities and sororities.

In 1923, despite the ban on fraternities and sororities, two of today's active Greek life organizations were formed on campus — just under different names.



As one of the oldest fraternities on campus, Phi Delta Theta has evolved from a club dedicated to the college's first student-run newspaper to a Greek organization where men of all backgrounds and interests are welcomed.



The Black and White Club, 1924

The JUG Club was an organization emphasizing “Justice, Unity, and Good Fellowship” for women on campus while The Black and White Club was a group of men who were responsible for producing the college's first student-run newspaper and was founded on the traits of scholarship, religion, fraternity, and character.

In 1924, the JUG Club adopted the Greek name Delta Sigma Kappa, and it was officially the first Greek letter organization on campus. The same year, the Black and White Club became Pi Alpha Alpha. Both organizations were considered “local,” meaning they were not affiliated with any national fraternity or sorority and were bound only by their own rules and customs. As the groups grew, they saw the value in affiliating with national organizations for the resources and additional fellowship they would gain across the nation.

In 1971, Pi Alpha Alpha decided to become a colony of Phi Delta Theta, making it the first nationally affiliated fraternity at McDaniel College.

In 1989, Delta Sigma Kappa affiliated with Phi Mu and was officially rechartered. Both organizations are still active today and demonstrate the strong legacy of fraternity and sorority groups on the Hill.



J.U.G. Club, 1924



Phi Mu

The J.U.G. Club was one of the first women's organizations on campus. Today, the legacy lives on as Phi Mu.

## GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

A handful of other local fraternities and sororities on the Hill may not be currently active but are far from forgotten — just check the Alumni Updates section in any issue of The Hill magazine for shoutouts to some of the brothers and sisters from **Gamma Beta Chi (Betes)**, **Alpha Gamma Tau (Bachelors)**, **Delta Pi Alpha (Preachers)**, **Phi Alpha Mu (Phi Alphas)**, and **Iota Gamma Chi (Iotes)**. The reunions these alumni continue to hold show the strength of bonds formed in Greek organizations.

# INTRODUCING THE DIVINE NINE

## GROUNDING IN IDENTITY AND BELONGING

Many of the college’s newest Greek letter organizations worked for decades to establish their chapters on the Hill. The college’s Divine Nine organizations — historically Black fraternities and sororities governed by the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) — began organization efforts in the 1990s, but did not see official chapters until 30 years later.

Alumni Council Past President James E. Martin Jr. ’93 first approached the dean of student affairs with the idea to bring a historically Black fraternity to campus during his time as a student on the Hill. He was provided with the framework for what it would take to bring a new fraternity to the college and soon contacted the national headquarters of Alpha Phi Alpha Incorporated to find out their requirements for an official chapter.

“My motivations were both near- and long-term,” Martin says. “In the short term, I was interested in a community with shared values and goals. But in the long term, I was hoping to start a tradition at WMC that would benefit young men long after my graduation.”

Martin had hoped to establish a chapter before he graduated, but at the time, he only had one Alpha brother on campus with him, Anthony Washington ’95.

“Anthony and I were both inducted into the University of Maryland, Baltimore County chapter,” Martin says. “While we didn’t get to experience the day-to-day business of running a chapter, we were building the foundations for the future.”

The first Divine Nine chapter to officially charter at McDaniel was Omega Psi Phi in 2015, followed by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in 2016. It took until 2018 for Alpha Phi Alpha to be chartered on campus at McDaniel College — certainly far longer than Martin and Washington would have hoped. But for Martin, it was a bridge moment.

“Prior to 2018, I wasn’t involved with the college and rarely visited,” he says. “I attended the chartering of the chapter in 2018 and have become increasingly involved since then, including serving as the Alumni Council president.”

Martin has never doubted his McDaniel education, but it wasn’t always easy to feel like he belonged on the Hill. Now, he’s thrilled to see how the Divine Nine presence on campus has grown since his days as a student — most recently, with the chartering of Delta Sigma Theta in spring 2026.

“I wasn’t sure it would ever happen,” Martin says. “The Alpha men at McDaniel have been welcoming. They consider me a part of their chapter, and for that I am honored. McDaniel is made better by the leadership, volunteerism, and presence of The Divine Nine.”

“WE WERE BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE.”

— JAMES E. MARTIN JR. ’93



Delta Sigma Theta



Alpha Phi Alpha



Alpha Kappa Alpha



Sigma Gamma Rho & Omega Psi Phi



The success of the Divine Nine at McDaniel opened doors for other groups to find a place on the Hill.

In 2024, wanting an organization for Latina women to find sisterhood, McDaniel chartered its first chapter of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations: **Hermanidad de Sigma Iota Alpha (SIA).**



# PHI DELTA THETA THEN AND NOW:



**“You’re not anonymous in a fraternity or sorority at McDaniel — you’ll know every member, your peers will look out for you, and you’ll have opportunities to participate and even step into leadership roles. This is how Greek life should be.”**

— Sylvan Eichenlaub '26

## HOW THE COLLEGE’S OLDEST FRATERNITY IS THRIVING THANKS TO ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Sylvan Eichenlaub '26 firmly believes his time as a brother and serving as president of Phi Delta Theta enhanced his McDaniel experience. The 2026 winner of The Bates Prize, Eichenlaub is getting settled into his first job as a case manager for Second Wind Consultants and reflecting on how his fraternity helped prepare him for life post-graduation. A big part of that is the mentorship provided by Phi Delt alumni who remain actively engaged with the chapter, including Wayne Winterling '80. Conversations with them reveal the strong legacy Phi Delta Theta has sustained for more than five decades on the Hill.

### WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN A FRATERNITY?

**Winterling:** I am very close with my uncle, Grayson Winterling '66, M.Ed. '73, who graduated from Western Maryland College and was in a local fraternity, Delta Pi Alpha, known as the “Preachers.” I knew how important that brotherhood was to him and so that was one of my screening criteria for colleges where I was accepted. I don’t think my parents even realized it, but I wanted to go somewhere with Greek life on campus because I viewed it as part of the socialization process.

**Eichenlaub:** I’d never considered joining a fraternity, and I didn’t even know McDaniel had Greek life until I arrived. In my freshman year, I became friends with members of Phi Delta Theta without knowing about their fraternity affiliation, so when spring recruitment came around, it seemed like the obvious choice. I joined because of the quality of the friendships I’d already established, as well as the opportunities Phi Delta Theta offered.

### HOW DID BEING PART OF PHI DELTA THETA ENHANCE YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE?

**Winterling:** Phi Delta Theta kind of gave me a mission, an identity, and a purpose. Greek life gave the brothers a collective bond and made us want to stay on campus and see our education through to graduation.

**Eichenlaub:** Phi Delta Theta provided me with a group of friends I could always rely on and connections to a vast network of alumni who supported me and guided me to success. It also gave me opportunities like flying to Georgia for Phi Delta Theta’s biannual General Convention and giving back to the Westminster community through our chapter’s philanthropic work.

### HOW DID GREEK LIFE TRANSLATE TO YOUR ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL LIFE?

**Winterling:** I joined the U.S. Army for 21 years, and I always thought I wanted to be a lobbyist. Being in a fraternity taught me great social skills and leadership skills that have helped me to this day. When you have a common grounding in loyalty, camaraderie, and brotherhood, it translates beyond graduation. And now, I use my professional connections to give back to the next generation of Phi Deltas, helping them develop their professional skills and utilizing my network to get them started in their careers.

**Eichenlaub:** Because of the various roles I held in the fraternity, I became a more effective communicator and thoughtful leader, and I gained a newfound understanding of how organizations are run. My leadership roles gave me real-world experience as a project manager and team member, as well as interfacing with chapter advisors, fraternity board members, and the administration at McDaniel — not to mention working within a budget and managing a schedule of events and promotion. Phi Delta Theta is run like a business, so the skills and lessons I learned are invaluable as I enter the corporate world as a post-grad.

### WHY IS PHI DELTA THETA ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT WITH THE CURRENT CHAPTER SO IMPORTANT?

**Winterling:** This is a bond or a brotherhood for life. I check up on these kids; I want to hear how their jobs are going, what’s going on in their personal lives. During the COVID years, we were down to nine brothers; I was worried the fraternity was going to go under. But we have really rebounded in the past couple years. I believe our highly engaged alumni network is part of that. I am on campus about every other month, and I love being part of the teaching and learning moments that these guys will take with them into the world when they graduate.

**Eichenlaub:** Without our amazing alumni network, our chapter would not be nearly as successful as it is. The advisors have seen the fraternity through its ups and downs and provide current members with valuable insights and institutional knowledge that helped guide the chapter to new heights. During my transition into the role of president, my advisors offered me guidance on ways to be both effective and impactful in my leadership.

### WHAT DO YOU WANT PEOPLE TO KNOW ABOUT GREEK LIFE AT A SMALLER SCHOOL LIKE McDANIEL?

**Winterling:** Greek life is important at a small school like McDaniel. I am hoping that some alumni from other fraternities and sororities — even those local chapters that were around in the 1960s — could start to bring some of that belonging back to campus. I strongly believe that the identity formed in Greek life can be essential to student success and retention. You’re less likely to leave if you have a strong group of friends to keep you going on the hard days. And Phi Delta Theta was that for me; I didn’t want to leave my friends.

**Eichenlaub:** It’s nothing like what you see on the news or in movies. Greek life at McDaniel truly feels more like a friend group rather than a large collection of individuals who are in the same organization. You’re not anonymous in a fraternity or sorority at McDaniel — you’ll know every member, your peers will look out for you, and you’ll have opportunities to participate and even step into leadership roles. This is how Greek life should be.



*Members of the Chapter Advisory Board include engaged alumni like Don Schenk '71 (left photo with Sylvan Eichenlaub '26) and Wayne Winterling '80 (front right with current Phi Delta Theta brothers).*

# EXCELLENCE IN RECRUITMENT:

## EMPOWERING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

Junior Julia Verton has found her experience in Alpha Sigma Tau (AST) to be “collaborative and empowering,” but she didn’t initially know where she’d end up when she enrolled on the Hill. While she knew her mom was in a sorority in college, it wasn’t until she struggled to make friends her first semester that she considered it for herself.

“As soon as I met the AST girls, everything clicked,” Verton says. “I knew right then that going Greek was the right path for me.”

As president of the chapter, Verton attended the Alpha Sigma Tau National Convention in June and accepted the chapter’s second consecutive Growth Excellence Award and Retention Excellence Award.

“These awards validate all the hard work we have put in as a sorority,” Verton says. “They show that our efforts to grow are paying off and that we’re successfully creating a welcoming environment where members feel genuinely supported throughout their entire college journey.”

But she says she and her sisters couldn’t have done this without hands-on support from the college, and particularly the Office of Student Engagement, which has provided leadership training, event logistics assistance, and administrative guidance.

“Winning the Growth Excellence and the Retention Excellence Awards for a second consecutive convention tells us that the women of Alpha Sigma Tau at McDaniel College have built something truly special,” says AST National President Katherine Onyshko.



“GREEK LIFE AT  
McDANIEL IS ALL  
ABOUT MUTUAL  
SUPPORT AND  
OPPORTUNITY.”

– Julia Verton ‘28



Alpha Sigma Tau

“Women on campus are saying ‘yes’ to Alpha Sigma Tau because they’re looking for friendship, belonging, leadership, and personal growth. Success like this doesn’t happen by chance. It reflects a chapter culture that has been intentionally cultivated and sustained through changes to the membership, chapter leadership, and campus community.”

Verton is thankful for the experience she’s had as a member and leader in AST so far, including the hands-on leadership opportunities that she knows she’ll take with her after graduation. Like many others, she thinks that’s what makes Greek life at McDaniel so special.

“Greek life at McDaniel is all about mutual support and opportunity,” Verton says. “You get to build strong relationships across all the different Greek organizations, take on meaningful leadership roles much earlier, and have a direct, visible impact on shaping campus culture.”

*Former Alpha Sigma Tau National President Jamie Jones Miller presented juniors Julia Verton and Katherine Marcus with the Growth Excellence Award and Retention Excellence Award at the sorority’s national convention this summer.*

## GREEK LIFE BY THE NUMBERS

**11** ACTIVE CHAPTERS ON CAMPUS

**205**  
CURRENT  
MEMBERS

**12.2%**  
OF THE  
STUDENT  
POPULATION

**3** PANHELLENIC  
COUNCIL

ALPHA SIGMA TAU, PHI MU, AND PHI SIGMA SIGMA

**2** INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL:  
PHI DELTA THETA, ALPHA SIGMA PHI

**5** DIVINE NINE (NATIONAL  
PAN-HELLENIC COUNCIL):

ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA, ALPHA PHI ALPHA, SIGMA  
GAMMA RHO, OMEGA PSI PHI, DELTA SIGMA THETA

OLDEST CURRENTLY  
ACTIVE CHAPTER:  
**PHI DELTA  
THETA (1971)**

NEWEST CURRENTLY  
ACTIVE CHAPTER:  
**DELTA SIGMA  
THETA (2026)**

**1** NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LATINO  
FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION:  
HERMANDAD DE SIGMA IOTA ALPHA

# BUILDING ON McDANIEL'S FOUNDATION OF COMMUNITY

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN

**Take a walk on the Hill and ask students, faculty, or staff what they love most about McDaniel College and you'll be met with one strikingly consistent theme: "It's the people." "The community." "I found my people and my home here."**

Since 1867, McDaniel College has been home to a culture rooted in inclusivity and care. It's a place where every voice is valued, where empathy matters, and where people show up for one another.

For two of McDaniel's newest leaders, this sense of community is both a defining strength and a shared priority. We caught up with the new provost and the inaugural dean of the School of Business and Technology to learn what community means to them, why it matters to student learning and growth, and how they hope to build on a foundation that is already, by all accounts, something special.

WHY ARE YOU EXCITED TO JOIN McDANIEL?

**SHERMAN:** The transformative leadership at McDaniel has been ahead of the curve, which is why McDaniel is so well positioned at a time when higher education is struggling. I look forward to learning from McDaniel’s success and also contributing to the college’s commitment to student success and personalized education. When I interviewed, I asked many people across campus what needs to stay the same at McDaniel, and everyone mentioned the strong sense of community. I also admire how much McDaniel has done to pull Westminster into its student experience and to ground students in the local area.

**ARVI:** McDaniel’s focus on student-centeredness and changing students’ lives resonates with me a lot. My purpose in life is to help young people succeed, so McDaniel’s philosophy is in sync with mine. McDaniel is a very collaborative space where decisions are made thoughtfully and decisively, and I look forward to being a part of that as we build the School of Business and Technology together.

WHAT DOES “COMMUNITY” MEAN TO YOU?

**SHERMAN:** Community forms the links that survive over time between people. It’s not just the relationships you have now, but the ongoing sense that you are part of something that extends beyond you, lasts beyond you, and to which you remain connected, even if you physically leave. We often think of a sense of community as the immediate group right around us. But community sustains over time and across dimensions of one’s life.

**ARVI:** To me, being part of a community means going above and beyond. What I’ve done in my previous institution and what I hope to do here is to make college much more accessible to the wider community because we know that education does change lives.

WHY IS CAMPUS LIFE AND COMMUNITY BELONGING INTEGRAL TO A WELL-ROUNDED ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE?

**SHERMAN:** The risk for any academic is that you could get lost in abstraction. Experiential learning in any liberal arts topic is about connecting abstractions back to the world around us, in a way that is mutually enriching. Community and a sense of belonging are vital ways that you take the abstractions that you’re studying, assess their accuracy, and refine them. In addition, I’ve found that students can take risks intellectually when they feel supported by the community around them.

**ARVI:** We live in an era where people are questioning the value of college, but colleges have a unique place in that transition phase between childhood and adulthood beyond the classroom. Being involved in clubs, athletics, arts, entrepreneurship competitions ... these are different opportunities for students to blossom in new communities. I encourage students to be involved and try different things. They might not succeed in everything, but those students who try new things get much more out of the college experience than just focusing purely on the grades.

MEET THE LEADERS

HOW DO YOU HOPE TO FOSTER COMMUNITY BELONGING IN YOUR POSITION?

**SHERMAN:** I will start by listening. McDaniel seems just naturally to have developed this rich community and this sense of engagement with the world around it. How did that happen? I want to hear the story from the people who have experienced it firsthand. Of course, as a historian, I tend to believe that the past tells us something about how we choose to navigate in the future. So, that’s where I would start: by learning.

**ARVI:** I want to understand the culture. The success of the School of Business and Technology will be a very collaborative process. This institution is almost 160 years old, and it has inherent strengths that I want to capitalize on. It could be building new pathways for students to get internships, providing meaningful opportunities for them to work with alumni, establishing mentoring opportunities, and keeping alumni engaged in terms of bringing them as guest speakers in the classrooms or integrating them into the entrepreneurship competition. Finding those meaningful spaces and opportunities for people to come together and collaborate is what truly makes community.



CAROLINE SHERMAN, PH.D.

PROVOST

Caroline Sherman, Ph.D., assumed the position of provost at McDaniel this summer after most recently serving as vice provost for academic administration and dean of graduate studies at The Catholic University of America. As McDaniel’s new chief academic officer, Sherman oversees both the undergraduate and graduate academic programs, including curriculum, staffing, instruction, assessment, and faculty development.



LEONARD ARVI, PH.D.

INAUGURAL DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

Leonard Arvi, Ph.D., was named the inaugural dean of the School of Business and Technology, which will officially open in fall 2027. Arvi comes to McDaniel from Salisbury University, where he had taught since 2008 and most recently served as department chairperson of Finance for the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business. Arvi is charged with building and executing a clear vision and establishing relationships that will shape the school’s strategic direction. He was recently named a 2026 Influential Marylander by The Daily Record.



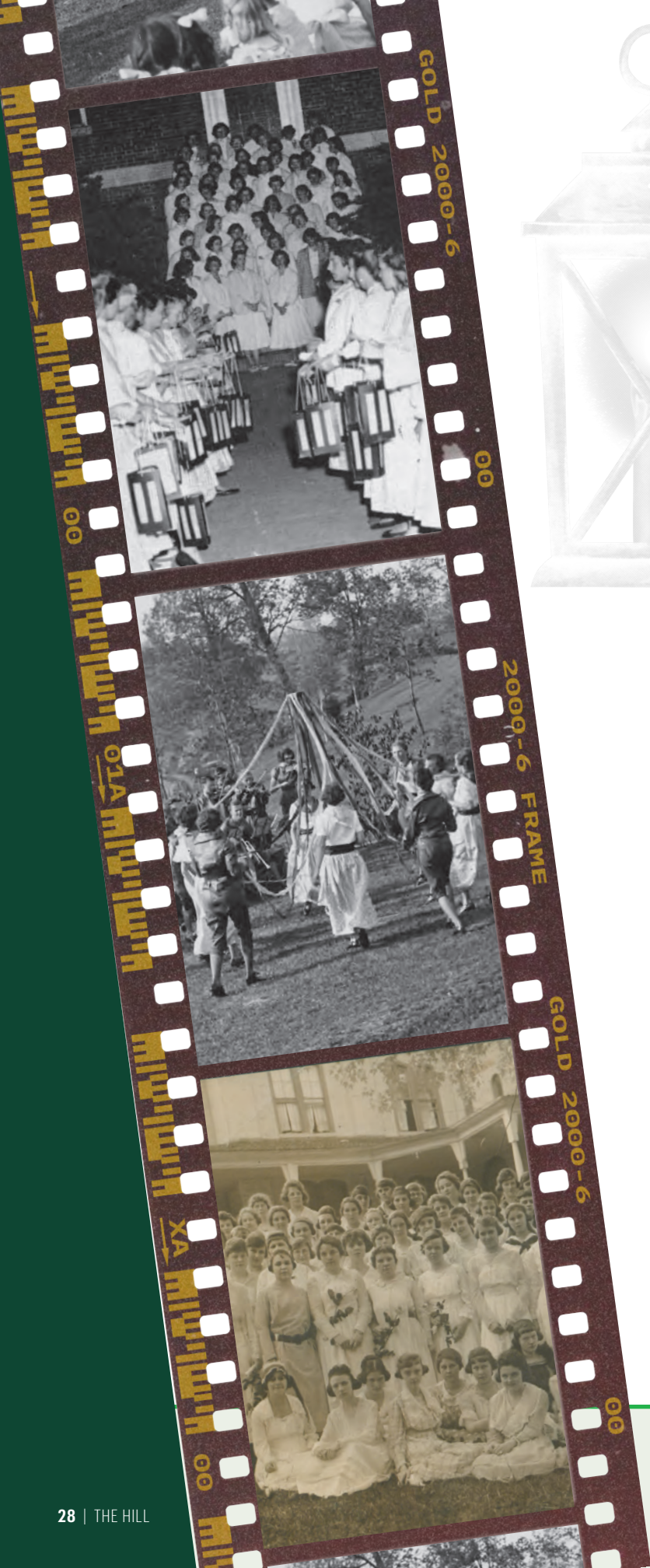
# McDANIEL MOMENTS

## *Traditions We Love*

By Lindsay Sherman

Every college has traditions that bring its community together across generations. As McDaniel College approaches its 160th anniversary in 2027, we're sharing our favorites from the early Western Maryland College days to the newest traditions on the Hill.

*We extend our gratitude to Hoover Library staff and student workers — and especially College Archivist Gwenlyn Coddington — for their contributions to this piece.*



# Celebrating belonging in our community

## *Celebrating women with the Lantern Chain, May Day, and the Rose Cup*

As the first coeducational college south of the Mason-Dixon Line, McDaniel (formerly Western Maryland) College has a history of celebrating the women who sought higher education on the Hill.

Beginning in 1926, first-year women created a new activity to honor senior women called the Lantern Chain. Carrying green and gold lanterns, the first-year women escorted the senior women to the football field. Then, in the darkness, they used their lanterns to form the class year number. Several songs were sung, each lantern was autographed by a senior, and the lanterns were then packed away to be used the following year.

May Day and the Rose Cup were two annual spring events on campus that highlighted women from the 1920s through the 1970s. Hosted by the women's student government, May Day featured a queen, a duchess, heralds, a maypole dance, and a pageant. The Rose Cup was a ceremony in which each female senior received a rose from an underclasswoman. This event was accompanied by a pageant and music, and each senior was granted a sip of wine from a trophy cup.



## *Shining light on our values at Out of Darkness*

In the dark winter season, the campus is illuminated by more than 25,000 lights and 700 luminarias for a feel-good celebration that has quickly become a beloved community tradition.

First held in 2023, Out of Darkness: A Celebration of Light is an annual event filled with light, education, food, and community. Out of Darkness brings the McDaniel College campus community together in unity to celebrate our campus history, learn from one another, uplift our cultural organizations, share religious and cultural traditions, usher in the winter holiday season, and have fun together.

Activities include a themed meal in Englar Dining Hall, the official lighting ceremony, indoor snowball fights, photos with Green Terror Santa, make-and-take crafts, photo opportunities, and the religious and cultural festival.

Throughout the event, students have opportunities to expand their worldview and knowledge, becoming more enlightened. This deeply personal journey is reflected in the college's motto, E Tenebris in Lucem Voco, which means, "I call you out of darkness into light."

As a special nod to their upcoming graduation, seniors receive luminarias with their names on them, symbolizing the way their McDaniel education and community has illuminated their lives.



*E Tenebris in Lucem Voco*



# Creating rituals around academics

## *Old Main bell bookends your time on the Hill*

The Old Main bell was installed in the bell tower of Hering Hall in 1890 at the direction of the second college president, T. H. Lewis. For many years, the bell signaled class changes, but as new buildings were added and the campus expanded, it became too difficult to hear the chimes across campus.

The bell was removed from Old Main when the building was razed and then preserved by alumni. In 1962, a brick pedestal holding the restored bell was installed between Baker Memorial Chapel (Big Baker) and Lewis Hall. When Memorial Plaza (Red Square) was completed in 1995, the Old Main bell with its pedestal was moved to its current location in this central campus gathering space.

Beginning in 1966, the bell was incorporated into an alumni remembrance ceremony. Even now, the McDaniel College Alumni Association holds a biannual memorial bell ringing ceremony to honor recently deceased alumni. In the early 1990s, President Robert H. Chambers expanded the significance of the bell in the lives of students and alumni. Wanting to bookend students' journeys on the Hill, he began the tradition of "ringing in" and "ringing out."

To this day, first-year and transfer students ring the Old Main bell following Introduction Convocation to symbolize the beginning of their McDaniel journey, and the college's newest graduates ring it once again after their Commencement Ceremony to close that chapter of their lives.



## *Tap the light*

In 2026, inspired by the college's motto, another tradition was born. Introduced during finals week, Tap the Light focuses on the college's seal, which was installed in Memorial Plaza in the spring semester. During finals week, students are encouraged to stop by Red Square and tap the light in the seal for good luck.





Glarsgiving



## Gathering as one community

### Sharing gratitude for community at Glarsgiving

A community favorite tradition has been in place since 1901, when the college began holding an annual Thanksgiving luncheon — now affectionately known as “Glarsgiving.”

Each year before Thanksgiving break, faculty and staff join students in food and conversation. Prior to the luncheon, faculty and staff are invited to a ceremony where they are recognized for reaching seniority milestones of at least 10 years of service. At this ceremony, the winners of the annual Arch Award for staff excellence are also announced.

With a full Thanksgiving-themed feast awaiting in Englar Dining Hall, this popular holiday tradition is always a welcome break before the end of the fall semester kicks into high gear.

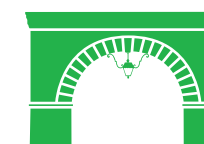
### Ward Memorial Arch connects McDaniel to Westminster

Ward Memorial Arch was donated to the college in honor of the college’s first president, J. T. Ward, in 1898. It was originally located on the main college drive, between what is now the President’s House and McDaniel Hall.

Built in the days of horse and buggy traffic, the arch was too narrow for modern automobiles to pass through, so the board approved moving it. Since its relocation to the corner of Main Street and Union Street in the mid-1930s, the arch has served as the gateway between McDaniel College and downtown Westminster.

For many years, first-year students participated in a candlelit Arch Walk to signify the beginning of their time at McDaniel. Since 2019, new first-year and transfer students have kicked off their relationship with Westminster on the Saturday of Orientation by participating in the Westminster Welcome Walk. Led by the college president, new students wear their McDaniel T-shirts and pass through Ward Memorial Arch on their way downtown for an official welcome by the mayor of the city. There, they are greeted by community partners, business owners, and local alumni, welcoming them to their new hometown just off campus.

On the eve of their graduation, seniors are once again led by the president — this time donning their Commencement regalia — on a walk from Big Baker through Ward Memorial Arch before the Senior Investiture and Honors Convocation. Like the bell ringing, it is a full-circle moment to symbolize the closing of a chapter, but the college’s newest alumni know that the arch will always welcome them home.



## Did you know...

McDaniel has an exclusive jewelry collection from Kyle Cavan Jewelry featuring Ward Memorial Arch? Learn more at [kylecavan.com/collections/mcdaniel](https://kylecavan.com/collections/mcdaniel).

# Music, sports, and more

## *Tailgating, Homecoming, and Letters on the Hill*

The Green Terror is synonymous with tailgating, and McDaniel's unique bowl-shaped stadium gives fans a one-of-a-kind experience on every football game day. With fans parking directly overlooking the gridiron, even people who aren't into sports can get into tailgating on the Hill, which has been ranked nationally. With grills, couches, and air horns at the ready, the socializing and the setting can't be beat. Green and gold attire is encouraged, and alumni are always welcome at the Alumni Tailgate Tent for a hot dog, compliments of the Alumni Tailgate Committee and grill master Don Hobart '62.

Homecoming Weekend always brings a huge crowd to the Hill. The college's 11 fraternities and sororities begin painting their masterpieces on the Hill the week before the game in hopes of winning the coveted honor as best Letters on the Hill, which is announced pregame along with the Homecoming Court and the winner of the James Brant Memorial Cup.

## *Porchfest*

About to celebrate its third year, Porchfest is a student music festival put on by the Office of Student Engagement (OSE). Porchfest has become one of OSE's signature events, bringing together students and community members through the shared experience of live music and campus engagement. Partnering with Fine Tuned Presents — the company owned by alum Jake Fine '21, M.S. '22 since 2023 — OSE transforms the campus into a vibrant festival venue. The festival fosters school spirit, strengthens campus pride, and creates meaningful opportunities for connection outside of the classroom. Almost 400 people have attended the festival in its first two years.



## *Sledding on the Hill*

For more than a century, McDaniel's hilly terrain has made it irresistible to students and Westminster locals on snow days. And before the early 2000s, a snow day on campus meant the trays in Englar Dining Hall served an alternative purpose: sledding. While students didn't have the college go-ahead to use the trays, it was tradition for them to relive their childhoods by sliding down campus slopes on a makeshift sled.





(L-R) Professor Emeritus Skip Fennell, Jack Tevis, Beth Heckert Tevis '77, M.Ed. '84, and President Emerita Joan Develin Coley.



THIS COLLEGE TURNED A VERY SHY  
18-YEAR-OLD INTO A CONFIDENT  
EDUCATOR AND COMMUNITY ADVOCATE.

— SUZANNE “BETH” HECKERT TEVIS ’77, M.ED. ’84



## Thanks a million: Honoring McDaniel’s past and investing in the future

When Suzanne “Beth” Heckert Tevis ’77, M.Ed. ’84 arrived at McDaniel (formerly Western Maryland College) as a student, she never imagined the college would shape nearly every chapter of her life. More than 50 years later, the Hill remains at the heart of the lifelong commitment to teaching, service, and philanthropy that she shares with her husband, Stanley “Jack” Tevis. Jack, a Westminster native who returned home after attending the University of Pennsylvania and University of Maryland School of Dentistry, shares her commitment to strengthening the community they both love.

With her bachelor’s degree and Master of Education from McDaniel, Beth spent her career educating Carroll County students and mentoring future teachers through the college’s Education program. Along the way, she carried lessons learned from two McDaniel mentors: President Emerita Joan Develin Coley and Professor Emeritus Francis “Skip” Fennell.

Recently, as the Tevises considered how best to invest in causes that shaped their lives, McDaniel kept coming to mind. Beth and Jack have committed to a \$1 million gift, in honor of Coley and Fennell, to support the next chapter of excellence in education on the Hill.

“We knew we wanted our gift to reflect the impact of the college on Westminster,” Jack says. “McDaniel’s success uplifts the town, and the Boys & Girls Clubs simply would not exist as it does today without investment and partnership from McDaniel.”

A longtime volunteer and board member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Carroll County, Beth helped build a partnership that connected McDaniel students with volunteer and paid opportunities at the organization.

“The Boys & Girls Clubs has always been a place that spoke to everything I loved about teaching,” Beth says. “That passion started here on the Hill, with classes with Joan and mentorship from Skip. It’s been great to pass on that legacy of mentorship to McDaniel students at the Boys & Girls Clubs.”

Beth’s undergraduate and graduate experiences on the Hill would not have been possible without the involvement of Coley and Fennell. In particular, the graduate assistantship that Fennell offered her allowed her to focus on completing her master’s without having to return to teaching full time.

“When you talk about McDaniel being a college that changes lives, I’m a perfect example of that. This college turned a very shy 18-year-old into a confident educator and community advocate,” Beth says.

“My most vivid and cherished memories of my education at McDaniel are forever associated with Joan and Skip as my mentors. This is our way of thanking them and ensuring they are remembered on the Hill for generations to come.”



## \$1.4 million renovation revives Harvey Stone Park

Supported by a grant from the State of Maryland and private donations, a \$1.4 million renovation of Harvey Stone Park and Pavilion has transformed the beloved campus landmark into an outdoor living-learning laboratory that will also host student gatherings and campus events. The fundraising for the renovation included a leadership gift from McDaniel Trustee Carroll L. “Splinter” Yingling ’68 and his wife, Susan Morales Yingling ’70, M.S. ’00.

Built in 1934, Harvey Stone Park and Pavilion is named after Harvey A. Stone, who served as superintendent of buildings and grounds at the college for 48 years. Built in an octagonal shape, it housed large stone fireplaces, benches, and a stone table. It also had an outdoor amphitheater surrounding it, to use as a social space for hosting events and as an outdoor classroom. It is surrounded by on-campus walking and hiking trails.

The renovation combines historic preservation with new modern elements, including an open-air pavilion for use as a functional outdoor classroom, a new restroom, storage building, and accessibility improvements. The completed project also includes a plant garden that will be maintained by Agrifood Program fellows in Environmental Studies.

And the material from the original Harvey Stone Pavilion has gone to good use: The Yinglings were able to salvage the wood and recreate the pavilion, now affectionately known as “Little Harvey,” at their own home in Westminster.

## McDaniel awarded \$580,100 for scientific equipment

In April, McDaniel College was awarded a four-year grant totaling \$580,100 from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation to purchase new state-of-the-art scientific equipment for research and teaching in McDaniel’s Biology, Chemistry, and Health Sciences departments.

The four-year grant expands access to cutting-edge research and teaching tools for students taking general education and advanced courses in these programs, regardless of major. It also enhances opportunities for undergraduate students participating in McDaniel’s donor-supported Student-Faculty Collaborative Summer Research Program by broadening the scope of projects that can be undertaken in the sciences.

Examples of specific equipment to be purchased include a virtual 3D anatomy visualization Anatomage Table, a computing and 3D printing lab, and advanced microscopes.

“This investment in the student and faculty experience comes at the perfect time,” says President Julia Jasken, “enabling us to build on past successes to enhance student learning and positioning McDaniel as a leader in liberal arts-based STEM education.”



The purchase of an additional Anatomage Table — like the one here already in use in the Kinesiology department — will enhance hands-on student learning in STEM on the Hill.



# GIFT HIGHLIGHTS

Our future as an innovative liberal arts college focused on student achievement and professional success lies in us reaching new heights — together. Thank you to the following donors for their recent gifts and gift commitments to the college in support of the strategic plan and Reaching New Heights: The Campaign for McDaniel College. We can’t do what we do without you!

Make your gift online today at [campaign.mcdaniel.edu](https://campaign.mcdaniel.edu).

**\$1 million**

from Beth Heckert Tevis '77, M.Ed. '84 and Jack Tevis.

**\$580,100**

from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation to purchase scientific equipment for research and teaching in the Biology, Chemistry, and Health Science departments.

**\$236,250**

from Millard Mazer '83 and Karen Mazer to support The Dr. Millard Mazer Family Scholarship Endowed Fund, The Dr. Millard Mazer Family Scholarship Current Use Fund, The Mindi Leeman Memorial Scholarship Endowed Fund, and The Mindi Leeman Memorial Scholarship Current Use Fund.

**\$200,000**

from Mark W. Carter '86 and Nancy Hutchinson Carter '86 to support The Mark '86 and Nancy '86 Carter Endowment.

**\$200,000**

from the late Patricia Johnson Krantz '70 to support The Patricia Johnson Krantz '70 Endowed Scholarship Fund.

**\$143,851**

from Marjorie Roy Espenschade '76 and Park Espenschade to support The Espenschade Class of 1976 Nursing Endowed Scholarship and The Marjorie Espenschade '76 Spirit of Nursing Award.

**\$100,448.30**

from Randolph Blazer '72 to support The Lewis Recitation Hall Renovations Fund.

**\$60,000**

from Philip Enstice '71 and Gail Chance Enstice '73 to support The Chance/Enstice Family Scholarship Fund.

**\$35,859.42**

from Leon Cronce '71 to support The Leon Cronce '71 and Betty Endowed Wrestling Fund.

**\$35,000**

from Sharon Klompus M.Ed. '75 to support The Sharon L. Klompus M.Ed. '75 Endowed Scholarship Fund.

**\$27,500**

from John Masti to support The Lindsey Nichols '16 Endowed Women's Basketball Award and The Lindsey Nichols '16 Current Use Women's Basketball Award.

**\$25,000**

from Alma Edgerly to support The Henry P. and Gretchen Stein Hornung Endowed Scholarship Fund.

**\$25,000**

from Lois Chilcoat Meszaros '64, M.Ed. '72 to support The Catherine Schaffer Endowed Scholarship Fund.

**\$25,000**

from John Van Horn '72 and Susan Van Horn to support The Van Horn Literary Endowed Scholarship Fund.

**\$25,000**

from the late Virginia Phillips '43 to support The Virginia Phillips '43 Endowed Library Fund.

*Gifts and commitments received between Jan. 16, 2026, and May 31, 2026.*

# ALUMNI UPDATES

LIFE AFTER COLLEGE



COREY NOLEN PHOTO

The Office of Student Engagement holds more than 1,400 events on campus for students each academic year.

## 1960

**Jim Thomas** and **Mildred “Millie” Dickey Thomas ‘62** had a wonderful trip to Maryland in June 2025 to celebrate their 65th Class Reunion with a small but enthusiastic group of classmates. “Sure wish more of you had been able to join us!” they say. “Of course, having lived in Colorado for the past 56 years, we both ate lots of crab cakes and crab soup! Good food like that is unavailable in Colorado.” They wrote their update from the Big Island of Hawaii, on their 11th visit.

**Bea Gill Harmon** and **Denny Harmon ‘57, M.Ed. ‘61** are still enjoying home in Hilton Head, South Carolina — “Although both of us fuss a bit about aging.” Denny still plays golf three times a week (nine holes only). Bea had to hang up her tennis shoes, but she can still play bridge — “Although none of the games are as much fun as those on Blanche Ward’s third floor!” she says. They also welcomed their first great-grandchild last year.

**Karl Silex** and **Joan Zajac Silex ‘61** report that they have three grandsons in college. The oldest, **Ben Fireman ‘27**, is a senior at McDaniel. Karl and Joan celebrated their 65th anniversary in December. Karl is still active in the Baltimore Rotary Club after 52 years and plays tennis, golf, and pickleball. Joan, a voracious reader, belongs to a book club and is involved in church activities. While many of their friends are in retirement communities, they are still hesitant to make that move.

**Roderick Ryon** and his wife, Joan, moved to a continuing care facility in Baltimore in 2025. “No complaints with someone else doing the cooking and housekeeping!” they say. They have two college-age granddaughters and say that talking with them brings back fond memories of WMC.

**Bev Schott Myers** and **Jon Myers ‘61** are living at Edenwald in Towson, Maryland, and love their apartment there. They are both doing well, and their family continues to thrive.

**Jim Worden** and **Lynne Rodway Worden ‘63** have been living in Colorado Springs, Colorado, for the last 27 years after a 19-year stint in Detroit, Michigan. Their three daughters and their families also live in Colorado, and their son lives in Florida. Jim loves snowboarding, hiking, four-wheeling, sailing, and biking, while Lynne enjoys being “the ultimate” mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Jim has been involved in church and ministry activities over the years. He loves being busy, and is not sure just what retirement is yet!

**Lloyd Musselman** and his wife, Nancy, are enjoying life, watching Korean dramas on Netflix, and doing chair yoga. They enjoyed the 65th Class Reunion where they met up with other “upstanding” classmates. Later in the summer of 2025, Lloyd and the other living members of the team that defeated Drexel received a T-shirt from **Bob Hyde ‘61** celebrating “The Boys of ‘59,” which Lloyd wears often. “For those who say we live too much in the past,” Lloyd says, “I respond, ‘Ah, but what a past!’”

**Don Hester** is still active in Rotary but had to step down from his volunteer ambulance activities because of macular degeneration. He is still active in the fire department and serves on the vestry of his church. For the last few years, he

has been the primary caregiver for his wife, who succumbed to a combination of Parkinson’s disease and cancer in December 2025. A few years after losing his boat in an accident with a commercial ferry, Don now has a new boat that he works on in his spare time and is looking forward to some good boating this year.

**Don Rabush ‘62, M.Ed. ‘70** and I continue to split our time between California and Carroll County. This year, we returned to Carroll Lutheran Village in Westminster, Maryland, after taking the train from Los Angeles to Chicago to Washington, D.C. The trip was interesting, to say the least! We have many friends here in the Village and are involved in many activities, including bridge and exercise. We continue to live a full and happy life with our children, grandchildren, and beloved dog.

*Carol Rabush  
1960 Class Reporter  
201 St. Mark Way #214  
Westminster, MD 21158  
cmrabush02@yahoo.com*

## 1966

**Roger Adler** continues to practice law from his office in lower Manhattan, albeit in a semi-retired mode. He took a Holland America cruise on the Rotterdam to celebrate both becoming an octogenarian and having been discharged by the Perlmutter Cancer Center following treatment for pancreatic cancer. Only 10% to 23% of patients survive more than five years. He is deeply grateful for the five-star medical care he received at NYU Langone Medical Center. He continues to be in touch with Preacher fraternity brothers **Ron Giesey** and **Gerald Winegrad**.

After careers in the Air Force and defense industry, **Russell “Will” Beacht** and his wife, Ann, traded the cold weather of Colorado for the warm climes of the high desert of New Mexico. In retirement, they have busied themselves with international travel and hobbies. Whenever they visit their daughter and family in Monrovia, Maryland, they occasionally walk the McDaniel campus. They’re happy to report that Albert Norman Ward Hall (ANW) is still there! He also sometimes meets with **Earl Miller, M.Ed. ‘72** and **Dr. Jim Lightner ‘59, Hon. Litt.D.**

**Judy Griep Burdette** lives on a 55-acre farm in Frederick County, enjoying the beauty and peace of nature. At 81, her husband, Mack, retired last year, giving up the repair business that he ran at home. Judy participates in The Great Frederick Fair as a gardener, and in Project FeederWatch for Cornell (University) Lab as a birdwatcher. She also spends a lot of time trying to amuse her “very smart but also very hard-headed” new puppy, Josie, and keep her out of mischief. Judy says that although advancing age is making itself felt, life is still good.

All submitted class notes are edited multiple times, first by the designated class reporter, then by the college. Submitted notes may be edited for length, clarity, cultural sensitivity, or any reason deemed reasonable by the class reporter and/or editor.

**Sandra Callander Burgee** enjoys traveling, cruising, and land tours. Her 2026 travel itinerary includes a Caribbean cruise, a tour of Spain, and a cruise from Quebec to Boston. Her widows group has decided to “keep on traveling” as Rick Steves suggests! Other interests at home are the Outer Banks Chorus, church choir, Master Gardeners, and Beach Food Pantry. As long as she is healthy, she plans to keep busy! After 60 years, she still has wonderful memories of WMC!

**Jo Ann Henklein McCann** experienced the beautiful island of Puerto Rico while at a conference with children, families, and teachers of children who are deaf, blind, or deafblind. With limited knowledge of Spanish, she participated in the meetings using American Sign Language or captions that were translated from Spanish captions created in Colombia and delivered to her cell phone in English in real time. She says that the technology that was used was amazing!

**Mary Lynn Engelbrecht Deckert** has lived in Salisbury, Maryland, for 48 years. She reports fair health and stays very busy with church activities as a women’s circle leader. She says that what started as the “Young Couples Group” is now the “Tired Retirees Group.” She does other projects too, including volunteering weekly at a local food pantry. One of her daughters lives close by, and the other is in Ashland, Virginia. Her grandkids range in age from 14 to 26, with no great-grandchildren. She keeps in regular contact with her first roommate, **Kit Reeves Stilley**, who left after sophomore year to become a dental hygienist. They have done some cruising together and chat often.

**Ray Edwards** lives in St. Mary’s County, Maryland, works at CareNet Counseling, and is very involved with his church as well.

**Richard Eigen** and his wife live in Newtown, Connecticut, after spending 16 years in Delray Beach, Florida. Newtown is home to their four grandchildren, whom they plan to watch grow up for the rest of their days. Richard and his wife go to every one of their 14-year-old granddaughter’s basketball games, celebrating her as the only freshman to make the varsity team! Their eldest grandchild is in college studying to be a pediatrician.

**Becky Lord Holliday** lives in Columbia, Maryland, and is retired. She and her husband have four children, 14 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild!

**Dennis Gosnell** and his wife are going strong after almost 60 years, with two children and three grandchildren. He spent most of his life working as an artist and craftsman, and living on and managing a 100-acre farm in Chester County, Pennsylvania. After several unfortunate accidents, he semi-retired to restore an old Morgan ’34 sailboat and sail the Chesapeake. Over the course of three years after moving to the Charlottesville area, Dennis, his wife, and his son built a home, barn, and studios. It turned out to be a great bonding experience! Dennis still paints and loves to fly fish, tie flies, grow things, and read. Occasionally, he visits with other WMC survivors, most recently, **Jim Morrison ’68**, **Wayne Sautter ’67**, and **Pam Graffam Jaske ’68**.

Life is good in Wisconsin for **Dave Hoffman**, except for the winters. Last year, he and his wife, Teri, took their second trip to Lucca, Italy, and also got some camping trips in — including their yearly pilgrimage to the Gunflint Trail in northern Minnesota. Teri rides horses and Dave hikes in the woods. When they’re not traveling, Teri and Dave are both involved in community activities — Teri with the local utilities commission and food pantry, and Dave on the police commission. They were slated to return to Europe in the spring for a Rhine River cruise before taking a couple of trips to Lake Superior back home in the states.

**Bruce Knowles** and **Anne Spencer Knowles ’67** celebrated their 59th anniversary in June. Their two children have blessed them with four grandchildren. Of the four, two will graduate college this spring, one is presently a freshman, and the other is a high school sophomore. Their health continues to allow full activity, including international travel via plane, ship, bus, and automobile. Anne is very engaged in musical activities, and Bruce putters around Lake Havasu City, Arizona, when they are not traveling.

**Elaine Miginsky** writes that receiving a postcard feels reminiscent of 60 years ago. However, after discovering that sending a letter from a recent travel destination required a \$10 stamp, she has decided texting or emailing a photo is now a better choice when traveling internationally. Elaine commuted in her first year at WMC and worked as a dorm proctor while taking many courses with lab work to fulfill requirements early. She recalls having the most fun while taking church organ classes. She reports that unfortunately one of her roommates in the old Victorian house (the Home Economics Building), **Beth Pratt Pirrie**, died in 2025.

**Patricia “Trish” Stahl Reuse** and her husband, Ron, are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary this year! At age 82, they are not traveling as much as they have in the past, but they do enjoy mini trips a few times a year. They greatly value their good health, walking a few miles daily and going to the YMCA twice weekly. Both she and Ron stay busy with volunteer commitments at church, and she says that time spent with many good friends is icing on the cake.

**Karen Myers Schutz** and her husband live in Albuquerque, New Mexico, but divide their time between there and a home in Oregon.

**William Spangler** says, “60 years, wow!” He lives in Westlake Village, California, and has seven grandkids — six girls and one boy. All of them live within 15 miles, and two are just a couple of doors away. He enjoys lots of family get-togethers and recently discovered a love for playing pickleball. He keeps in touch with **Dave Fisher ’67** and **Tom Bageant**.

**Joyce Stanton** resides in Catonsville, Maryland, staying busy volunteering after retirement, and has earned a Master of Arts in Theology.

**Anne Marlow Vose** and her husband, Warren, have been very fortunate health-wise, enabling them to travel and stay active on their boat. They spend summers on Martha’s Vineyard and winters in Sarasota, Florida, which Anne says is a

great combination, especially with the incredible snowstorms up north. Last year, they celebrated their 60th anniversary in Paris, and they took the whole family to Puerto Rico for New Year’s. Anne stays busy with too many organizational things and wonders, “Will I ever be able to say no?”

**Grayson Winterling, M.Ed. ’73** lives in Easton, Maryland, and was preparing to meet his grandsons in Florida when **Kaye Stevens Thomas** and her husband had coffee with him recently.

My husband, Jim, and I live in Salisbury, Maryland, and celebrated our 82nd birthdays this year. We have three children, who live in North Carolina, South Carolina, and New York. Our three grandchildren are growing up quickly, and next year, all three will be in high school together. Jim enjoys a Ravens game from time to time, and I’m a member of the garden club.

*Kaye Stevens Thomas*

*1966 Class Reporter*

*kaye\_thomas\_1@hotmail.com*

## 1972

**Chuck Sullivan** was named the 2026 Alum of the Year at the Alumni Association Awards Celebration on April 17. Since graduating, he has served on the Alumni Council, as a member of the WMC Heritage Society, and as an alumni visitor to the Board of Trustees. He was also awarded the Alumni Association’s Community Service Award in 1996, and most recently, he was the Heart of Virginia Council’s 2025 Eagle Class Honoree. Chuck writes, “I was really taken aback when I received the notification. I understand the selection process from being a part of it for many years, but I have no knowledge of who nominated me or when. I’m still getting used to the idea.”

**Dave Downes** and **Lenny Swift Downes ’73** are “doing well (for old people)” and enjoying retirement. Lenny plays bridge weekly, participates in two book clubs, goes to routine girls’ dinners, and stays heavily involved with family events. Dave says that “her ‘do it now’ attitude is due to the reminder that life is short and we are blessed.” Meanwhile, Dave accompanied his son on a “change-of-pace trip” to Kenya in February. It has been 51 years since Dave and Lenny were married in Little Baker Chapel and 56 years since they met. “Time has flown by but has been rich, and I am thankful for all of it,” Dave says. “Maybe less thankful for Lenny’s cancer years during COVID, but thankful for every day thereafter and for all the years before.”

**Ron Athey, M.Ed. ’75** is still living the life in Chestertown, Maryland, on the Eastern Shore. Now retired, he still meets up with Gamma Betes at least once a year thanks to the efforts of Alum of the Year **Chuck Sullivan**! He says that it was great to meet up with Chuck; **Charlie Bowers, M.Ed. ’74**; **Dave Downes**; **John “Irv” Bennett**; **Glenn Miller**; **Kevin Hanley**; and others. In the meantime, Ron walks 18 holes while playing golf and bikes twice a week.

**Sandy Fargo Geres, M.L.A. ’78** and her husband, Michael, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in 2025, fondly

remembering how **Ira Zepp Jr. ’52, Hon. L.H.D. ’15** traveled to Mystic, Connecticut, to marry them in June 1980. Since retiring in the spring of 2025, Sandy and Michael have enjoyed vacationing in Florida with family and going to concerts by musicians like Ringo Starr, James Taylor, and Eric Clapton. Sandy also happily keeps busy as a member of two book clubs, a church choir, and a Broadway chorus, as well as being a season ticket holder to Wolf Pack hockey and UConn football games. She is still occasionally in touch with **Joann Donnelly Pilachowski ’73**, **Jim Wilberger**, and **Ivan Lawson ’74** and enjoys hearing from them.

**Vivian Higdon Seaman** is still living in Westminster, Maryland, with her husband, **John Seaman ’70, M.Ed. ’76**, who retired after 50 years as a math teacher, coach, and principal. Vivian also retired from social work, and both retired from being foster parents. They attend McDaniel football games, where John broadcasts, and they enjoy Common Ground events. John also works out at the McDaniel gym daily. They have monthly dinners with football alums **Bob Watson ’73** and **Donna Herbst Watson ’74**; **Ron Cristy** and his wife, Carolyn; and **Tom Brown, M.Ed. ’77** and **Sandy Gochar Brown, M.Ed. ’75**. Vivian is a vendor at the Carroll County Farmers Market and sings in her church choir. They both are extremely fortunate to feel good while John battles prostate cancer and Vivian battles indolent lymphoma. They have time yet to enjoy with their three children and seven grandchildren. They also gather annually with other ’70 Preachers, **Bill Griffith ’70**, **Mike Elliott ’70**, and **JC Allen ’70** in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware — a tradition they love.

**Dawn Campaigne Miller** and **Bob Miller ’71** of Millington, Maryland, are still happily married after 55 years. They have two grown children and one grandson. “We can brag hard about all of them!” they say. They’ve traveled to all seven continents and photographed wildlife everywhere. Dawn added that although she transferred to Slippery Rock College her senior year, she still graduated in 1972 on schedule.

**Nancy Becker Miller** wrote, “It is hard to believe we are 75-ish!” Retired from teaching high school, she’s been unable to travel for the past five years due to health issues, but she looks forward to short trips. She lives in a family home in Timonium, Maryland, with her son, daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren. “Both of the grands love to cook with Grandmom and do crafts in the gazebo,” she says. Nancy also enjoys going to book talks by some of her favorite authors and sharing books with friends. Nancy and Charles celebrated their 50th anniversary with a party four years ago. For the last few years, Nancy has been subdividing her parents’ farm and has learned a lot about county processes and government. “A process of trial, error, and frustration!” she notes. “Finally, we have been successful!” She still keeps in touch with **Debbie Rice Cicero ’73** and **Terri Doyle Kaminski ’73**.

**Sandy Gochar Brown, M.Ed. ’75** and **Tom Brown, M.Ed. ’77** are doing well in Catonsville, Maryland, where they reside in an “aging in place” house in the middle of the Patapsco Valley State Park. Sandy interprets a bit, usually for the courts, and

she visits her 103-year-old mother almost daily in a residential home run by Polish nuns. Both she and Tom also volunteer, and Tom delivers weekly CSA produce for a farm.

**Don Mohler, M.L.A. '77** and **Linda Stevens Mohler '70** still live in Catonsville, Maryland, and love having their two children and seven grandchildren nearby. They celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary in August. Linda loves to travel and cook while being on homework duty for all of the grandchildren. Don remains active and is the CEO of Mohler Communication Strategies. He gathers with many of his Phi Delt brothers several times a year. Both Linda and Don love chasing their grandchildren around from one game to another.

Since retiring, **Joan Kaufman Culler** has been able to enjoy her love of reading and writing by posting on her blog, the Lutheran Ladies Connection. Her writing has also appeared in works from Crossway and Northwestern Publishing House, The Lutheran Ambassador, The Lutheran Digest, and The Lutheran Witness. As of January 2026, Joan and her husband, Terry, have been married for 54 years and are now not only grandparents, but great-grandparents! Although Terry is also retired, he is currently serving as an interim pastor at Alsace Lutheran Church in Reading, Pennsylvania. Joan and Terry travel from Hagerstown, Maryland, to Reading every other week so he can conduct services and provide ministry there. "It has been quite an adventure and a test of organizational skills to go back and forth so often," says Joan. She is still in touch with her college roomie, **Nancy Watson Matthews**, and they Zoom with one another often.

"Wow! I can't believe it's been 10 years since I retired from my ski shop in Breckenridge, Colorado," writes **Dave Newkirk**. He's experienced "some bad" over the last few years: COVID and losing his wife a year and half ago. But he's also experienced a lot of good: boating the Great Loop for a year in 2018, buying a ghost town in southern Colorado and working with his son to turn it into a music venue, and expecting his first grandchild in April from his daughter, who lives in Taiwan. Dave reports that he is "quite happy living in a small 1950s cabin, researching and writing about the history of the ghost town and slowly accepting that my body doesn't function as well as it used to!"

**Roger Young** has been thinking a lot about his years at Western Maryland. Specifically, he remembers the sit-ins in Baker Chapel to protest the Vietnam War and racial and sex discrimination, mandatory ROTC for all first-year men, and the first draft lottery. "It seems the good old bad times have now returned, almost in a 1:1 correspondence with only the names changed. History has not taught us much, I fear," says Roger. He visited his old roommate **Wally Parce** last summer in Palo Alto, California, and reports that Wally is almost exactly the same, even though it's been 58 years since playing duck, duck, goose during orientation week. Roger is still working on his startup company, PreTeL, and trying to develop monitoring systems to support pregnancy management.

"As for Peggy and me, I have bad news and good news," wrote **Bob Haynie**. "The bad news is that nothing has changed since my last update. The good news is we're both stupidly

happy and reasonably healthy." Last year, Bob met up with his old WMC roommate, **Doug Rinehart**. They'd lived in the same room (B34 MacLea) for the whole four years and never had an argument. "Surely that was not common; perhaps it was unique," says Bob. "We lost track of each other after we graduated. Doug went into an Army career, and I went off on a four-year hitch in the Air Force and then moved out West." He and Doug re-established contact a few years ago, thanks to **Jim Wilberger**.

**Jim Wilberger** and his wife, Manena, are enjoying lots of time with their adorable first grandson, 1-year-old Josa. They travel to Madrid twice a year, along with other European side trips, and Jim still teaches and mentors the Cinema students on campus at McDaniel for a week every semester. He shared the sad news that beloved Theatre professor **Bill Tribby '56** passed away on Jan. 18, 2025, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. "Bill expanded my creative consciousness to explore alternate pathways of thinking, which has made all the difference to me," says Jim. "We stayed in touch, and he still mentored and encouraged me, even in his 90s! He and **Ira Zepp Jr. '52, Hon. L.H.D. '15** are still my inspiration to pay it forward to the McDaniel Cinema students, and I'm so proud of the career successes of our alumni."

**Doug Rinehart** and his wife, Vivian, traveled to Maryland from their home in Hawaii in September 2025 for their son Geoff's wedding on Oct. 11, 2025. He and Vivian still occasionally stay with Doug's brother in Edgewater, Maryland. They say they'll certainly still come back to Maryland, but maybe not for the extended stays of the past. He is glad to be back in regular contact with **Bob Haynie** by email.

**James "Jim" Yates** wrote from Phoenix, Maryland, that he retired in 2024 and is adjusting well. One of the perks he enjoys as a trustee for McDaniel is getting to see many classmates and fellow alumni while serving the college. In the summer of 2025, he took his family on one of his "bucket list" trips to a villa in Tuscany, Italy, for 10 days. He has three grandchildren who keep both him and his wife, Nancy, very busy. He's still playing as much golf as his back will allow.

**Rich Tom** enjoys watching the sunrise over the Chesapeake Bay with his first cup of coffee. He's doing lots of traveling to the Eastern Shore; Durango, Colorado; and Dallas, Texas, seeing his grandkids. When he's able to relax, Rich does lots of family genealogy research, writing info and getting his memories published to ensure the legacy of his family is remembered. He is a member of the Baltimore Chinese Historic Research Group, sponsored through a Johns Hopkins University grant to document the history and contributions of the Chinese community in Baltimore.

**Kevin Hanley** and **Alice Boyer Hanley** are buoyed by their five children and six grandkids scattered around the country in California, Utah, North Carolina, and Washington, D.C. "It keeps us on the road and on our toes!" they say. They also run a small consulting practice together. Their latest international travel was to Portugal and Spain last year, and they still head to Hawaii two to three times a year and have regular annual trips to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Kevin is trying to

# IN MEMORIAM

## PROFESSOR EMERITA CAROL FRITZ M.ED. '69

Carol Fritz M.Ed. '69, Ed.D. — retired associate director of athletics, retired professor of Exercise Science, and professor emerita of Physical Education — died on June 16, at the age of 90. She taught and coached on the Hill from 1967 to 2007.

Fritz was a fierce champion of women in sports. She fought for women's rights in athletics and eventually succeeded in obtaining locker rooms for both student-athletes and their visiting opponents as well as uniforms that prioritized function over appearance. Over the years, she amassed a historical collection of women's athletic uniforms, which is currently on display in the Carol A. Fritz Memorabilia Room in the lobby of the Gill Center.

Fritz also helped implement Title IX — the 1972 law that brought equality to women athletes — and became the first woman president of the Middle Atlantic Conference. She would go on to be the co-founder and first president of the Maryland Coaches Association, the first president of the Penn-Mar Conference for women, and a member of the commission to draft the conference model, constitution, and bylaws for the Centennial Conference.

As a McDaniel faculty member, Fritz taught courses at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, such as Tests and Measurement, Kinesiology, Coaching Women's Sports, School and Community Health, Physical Education for the Elementary School, Athletic Administration, and Current Issues in Physical Education.

As a coach, she led the women's volleyball, basketball, and softball teams and was recognized in 1990 as one of the most successful volleyball coaches in Division III history. Fritz was also named South Region Coach of the Year in 1986 by the Collegiate Volleyball Coaches Association and again in 1987 by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. In 1994, she was honored as Administrator of the Year by the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletic Administrators. She was inducted into the McDaniel College Athletics Hall of Fame in 2007.

Fritz also endowed the Dr. Carol Fritz Sports Memorabilia Fund, the Dr. Carol Fritz Fund for Women's Athletics, and the Faith Millard Medal. When addressing the Class of 1994 at their Commencement ceremony, she recalled a moment when a parent approached her at a game and asked her which player was her daughter. Without hesitation, Fritz replied, "All of them."



improve his golf game, failing miserably, and having a lot of fun doing it. Alice is regularly doing Pilates and is hauling most of the luggage on their trips. She also has taken over most of the driving as Kevin's vision is heading south. They haven't been back to the Hill for some time now, and Kevin's days on the Board of Trustees ended in 2023 after a 20-year stint.

**Lynn Tarbutton Cummings** is traveling again, now that her little grandsons are in preschool and kindergarten. In January, she went to Baja, California, and Baja California Sur to observe and pet gray whales in two of the three lagunas (Ojo de Liebre and San Ignacio), where many females give birth and raise their babies for a few months before returning to Alaska. She and her husband also spent several weeks in Palm Springs,

hiking in Indian Canyons, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, and Whitewater Wildlife Refuge. Lynn reports that the birding in the Palm Springs area is surprisingly good.

**Ruth Howell** is in her 43rd year of singing with the Choral Arts Society of Frederick, and her other favorite thing to do is travel. In February 2025, she took a Panama Canal trip with **Debbie Clark '70**. Other trips included a three-week trip on a small ship to Spain, Portugal, Morocco, and Gibraltar. Her most recent trip was to Iceland with **Sue Ball Carew '71**. "It was warmer there in January than it was here!" Ruth reports. She is grateful to have these wonderful opportunities with dear friends from WMC! She, **Nancy Lee Porter**, and **Dru Tresselt** had a mini reunion in January as well.

“Not much has happened,” wrote **Robert Dougherty** from his fourth trip to Tokyo, visiting his son and his friends. Robert has connected with both future Green Terrors and alumni — offering to give his doctor’s daughter a tour of McDaniel after she applied to start in the fall and encountering a recent McDaniel grad while in Sea Isle City, New Jersey, last summer.

**Ron “Tar” Cristy** retired from MOI, Inc. in 2016 and continued as a consultant/contractor. In June 2022, he celebrated the marriage of his daughter, **Nicole Cristy McDermott ’10**, at San Diego’s Del Coronado, with dear friends from the WMC and McDaniel eras in attendance. In September 2025, Tar and his bride of 45 years, Carolyn, took the newlyweds to Italy for two weeks. “Aside from Venice, Florence, Rome, and Naples, we visited my grandparents’ four hometowns and, where possible, their parishes,” said Tar. “Very emotional for me.” Lastly, Tar plays lots of golf, but he says, “My game still sucks!”

**Georgine Stephenson Bradbury** has finally fully retired from teaching art and now has an open schedule to do nothing, travel, spend time with her granddaughters and friends, and enjoy her shore house in Sea Isle City, New Jersey, whenever she wants. She and her Phi Alph buddies — **Nancy “Dawk” Dawkins, Sue Head, Ginny Haifley McNeil, Linda “Mac” McWilliams Broderick**, and **Chris Reinert Tofani** — celebrated their 75th birthdays together there last September. They also met up with some Phi Alphas from the class of ‘73: **Gail Chance Entice ’73, Kathy Walter Hobart ’73, M.Ed. ’76, Lenny Swift Downes ’73**, and **Joanne Chatham Lindsay ’73**. They all had a great time laughing, drinking, looking at old photos, and talking for hours. Georgine says, “It is so wonderful to have had the opportunity to live with such a great group of girls and create such a lasting friendship. We are all grateful for this!”

**Sherman “Bucky” Paper** has been retired from healthcare for nine years now and does not miss a second of it. His retirement project is a puppy — a long-haired German shepherd who is his constant companion and protector. “My ties to WMC are limited,” says Bucky, “but I see my old frat brothers or I am in communication with them a few times a year. ... Always fun to see these guys, but so sad to see how many are no longer with us.”

**Dan Peck** and his wife, Carolann (a retired Baltimore County middle school teacher), have traveled throughout the United States and taken a number of trips to Europe. Their son, Robert, a civil engineer, lives in Towson, Maryland, with his wife and two young daughters. Their proximity to Dan and Carolann’s home in Bel Air, Maryland, has allowed them to remain a big part of their lives. When he’s not engaged in grandfather duties, Dan enjoys visiting many of our national parks and history sites. “I am sure that Dr. Whitfield would have wanted to quiz me on those experiences,” he says. Now that he’s 76 years old, he hopes he will still be able to enjoy his yard work and other activities. “My best to all of my ‘72 classmates,” says Dan, “and especially to my commuter classmates — Tom and Tom, who congregated with me in the small student union below the old bookstore.”

**Susan Phoebe Panek** writes, “I expect that I am bobbing about on the same sea of joys, challenges, cherished memories, and

losses as my classmates are, as we age in these proverbial ‘interesting times.’” She says she keeps up with fellow alums at protests and that health maintenance has become a part-time job. She enjoys time spent with kids and grandkids; precious annual visits to St. Petersburg, Florida, with her “little roomie,” **Barbara Schull Chilton**; and traveling to new places and cherished familiar ones. Several years ago, her son, Alex, sparked her interest in English Premier League football. “Inspired by Ted Lasso and Prince Albert’s famous edifice, I chose Crystal Palace as my team,” says Susan, “which has forced me to become more patient and philosophical.” Living in a mother-in-law flat with her daughter, Claire, and her family, Susan recently adopted Callie, “a mature calico lady of a certain age, but with lots of life left.” She and Callie have become accustomed to each other’s company and are cultivating Danish hygge in downtown Upperco, Maryland.

**Melissa Smith Barnes** still lives in Littlestown, Pennsylvania, with her husband, Leo. “Although we’re retired, we stay comfortably busy,” she says. They each preach six to seven times a year in their home church. Melissa serves in a clergy role with a retreat ministry called Credo, which ministers to those in recovery from “brokenness,” and she serves on a team in her region of the Covenant Brethren Church, responsible for credentialing and training ministers. “I’m blessed that two of my children live relatively close by (one across the street), with the third in Philadelphia,” she says. Melissa and Leo have 11 grandchildren. Having played field hockey, it’s a joy for Melissa to watch her granddaughter play on the high school varsity team. Her most exciting news is the birth of her first great-grandson in August 2025.

**Harry Brock** wrote in with the unfortunate news that his wife passed away in March 2025 after a long bout with cancer.

Sadly, we do have to report a few deaths of classmates, including **Karen Canoles Moore** of Las Vegas, Nevada, who passed away on Jan. 24, 2024; **Gary Fuhrman** of York, Pennsylvania, on April 15, 2025; and **James Johnstone** of Mount Holly Springs, Pennsylvania, on July 13, 2024.

As for myself, **Kathy Bryant**, I am leading a somewhat unexpected life. I’ve met many famous people throughout my career. I got to spend a whole day with actor Jimmy Stewart when he was campaigning for Ronald Reagan, and I was Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip’s official photographer when they visited Mount Vernon in Alexandria, Virginia, in May 1991. Three of my photographs of them hang at Mount Vernon.

Unfortunately, I got seriously scammed last year, so, I am back to work, living middle age in my old age. My most rewarding endeavor is writing freelance articles for The Delmarva Farmer and New Jersey Farmer newspapers, and I have also been driving for DoorDash.

As I was writing this article, I received a full-time job offer at Homestead Gardens in Davidsonville, Maryland, where I ran into **Alice Boyer Hanley** several years ago. Hopefully, this job will help me tackle my one-acre “jungle” at my Victorian home in College Park, Maryland, built by my great aunt and uncle in 1888.

*Kathy Bryant  
1972 Class Reporter  
kdbryant20740@gmail.com*

## 1978

**Jeff Smith** and his wife, Kristina, are living in Northern Virginia. He retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel a while ago and has also retired from federal civilian service. They try to travel while still able and have been to several national parks, most recently in Alaska. They remain active in their church and try to stay in shape. Kristina stays busy as an artist, and Jeff has published three books.

**Ellen Missy Green** moved to Maine on Jan. 6, 1979, and has never regretted it! She has two wonderful daughters: Jessica, who is 43 years old and living in Philly, and Kristina, who is 38 and living in Scarborough, Maine, with her husband, Ryan, and two beautiful sons, Max and Eliot. Kristina and her family live about 25 miles south of Freeport, Maine, where Ellen has been living for close to 13 years. Ellen retired seven years ago from working as a vocational rehabilitation counselor for the state of Maine. She plans to live out her days in Maine, where she has enjoyed a good life!

**Susan Terwilliger** writes that she thinks of WMC with affection and that her classmates will always be 20 years old in her mind. She and her husband, Jeff, have spent the past 21 years in Alaska. “It never stops — the beauty, the wildness, the adventure, and the struggle.” A few years ago, they finally bought their dream home, a log house that was built without power tools before Alaska achieved statehood. Susan still works in private practice as a midwife, having attended over 1,000 births. She says she navigates life’s difficulties and losses with varying capacity — poetry she studied at WMC helps. Sometimes, she also gets a reset when a big moose walks by the kitchen window.

**Pam Price Delenick** and her husband, Dave, enjoy beach living in Cape May, New Jersey. She sends hellos and a shout out to **Sandy Evans Delenick, Julie Austin Harrison, Susan Scott, Nancy Paulsen Patrick**, and **Karen Holway**.

**Mark Katz** is doing fine and wishes all are well. After several decades, he retired from the state of Maryland a little over a year ago. As a friend of his told him, “Now every day is Saturday or Sunday!” He is still trying to figure out what time to wake up.

Snowbird **Sally Stanfield** landed in a fantastic, small condominium community with amazing friends in Dunedin, Florida. The temps and lack of snow and ice are infinitely better than conditions farther north. She heads south in mid-to late November and spends one half-year plus one day in Maryland to maintain residency.

After being a financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial (and its predecessors) for 33¼ years, **Rich Bacon** retired in February 2024. He is enjoying retirement for the most part as the stress level is much less, and he has more time for reading and watching his favorite English soccer team, Newcastle. Plus, he gets a walk in most days. Rich celebrated retirement by taking a two-week tour of Scandinavia with his daughter, Sofia, in August 2024. They really enjoyed the tour with highlights being the Norwegian fjords and the cities of Stockholm and Copenhagen. He is currently taking a Spanish conversation class at a local senior center to brush up on his recollection of the language in preparation for his next travel adventure.

# IN MEMORIAM

## HEAD MEN’S BASKETBALL COACH KEVIN CURLEY

Head Men’s Basketball Coach Kevin Curley died on May 27 after battling metastatic esophageal cancer.

As the winningest coach in McDaniel men’s basketball program history, Coach Curley earned his 200th career win in November 2025, becoming the first coach in program history to surpass the 200-win milestone.

Curley came to McDaniel in 2007, leading the men’s basketball program for nearly two decades. During that time, he brought the team to seven Centennial Conference Tournament appearances and five ECAC Tournament appearances, including back-to-back seasons in 2025 and 2026. He was named a two-time Centennial Conference Coach of the Year in 2009 and 2014 and coached 19 All-Centennial Conference selections.

A native of State College, Pennsylvania, and a 1994 graduate of Penn State, he played two seasons at Penn State Altoona. Curley earned a master’s degree in Physical Education with a concentration in Athletic Coaching from West Virginia University in 1996.

During his time on the Hill, Curley served as a coach, mentor, and friend to his many student-athletes, and a great friend and colleague to the entire campus community.

He is survived by his wife, Allison, and their three children, Caroline, Nathaniel, and Gabriel.

**Sue Windsor Becraft** and **Ed Becraft ’77** enjoy life in Maryland and recently celebrated their 48th anniversary. Sue is happily retired from senior project management and IT work, and she volunteers at Ladew Gardens events and at Holy Cross Church as a eucharistic minister. In the past year, Sue and Ed have connected with **Fran Sevier Brown ’80** and **Joycelyn Reynolds Gallois ’80** and have traveled to Lake Tahoe to visit Delt big sister **Dell Wogsland Elias ’76, Joycelyn Reynolds Gallois ’80**, and **Barbara Llewelyn Chilcoat ’80**. Last October, they partied with Ed’s WMC friends, whom they had not seen in over 30 years — **Bob Irwin ’77, Rusty Hess ’77, Gary Walters ’77**, and **Nancy Hess Fritzsche ’78** — at Rusty’s surprise 70th birthday party. It was great being 20 in the ‘70s and now we are going to be 70 in the 20s!

**Ed Ginsberg** retired from private practice but is still teaching pediatric dentistry at the University of Maryland Dental School once a week and remains a member of the Johns Hopkins cleft palate team. He and Jeannie built a new home this past year in Stevenson, Maryland, with living quarters all on the first floor in preparation for the future. After selling his dental practices, Ed has spent the majority of his time trying to learn how to golf, albeit not very successfully. However, he did join the Phi Delt golf trip to Scottsdale, Arizona — a 37-year tradition. It was a blast reminiscing about their days at WMC.

**Elizabeth “Beth” Roulette Baseler** reports that life is busy as ever, although with her husband recently retiring, she expects that their lives will slow down a bit.

**Nancy Hess Fritzsche** and her husband, Mark, still live in Monument, Colorado. Nancy works part time as the director of children’s ministry at their local church, and she is a volunteer coach with their high school girls’ lacrosse team. These activities, plus their three young grandchildren who live nearby, keep Nancy plenty occupied! Each August, she travels to a special family vacation spot in Ontario, Canada, and gets to spend some quality time with **Sherry Wensel Bowers, M.Ed. ’84**.

Life is still good in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, for **Barbara Meister Kroberger**. She and Jeff have four granddaughters under the age of 8 living 30 minutes from them, so they get to spend lots of time together. Barb is in her 12th season of dragon boating and loving it. She also serves on the board of a local nonprofit. Jeff and Barb travel as much as they can. Next up is a trip to French Polynesia to celebrate their 45th anniversary. Why wait till the 50th? Barb hopes everyone shares the same happy memories of WMC that she does.

**George Metz** is still living in Summerville, South Carolina, and enjoying retirement from administrative and teaching responsibilities in the doctoral program at Charleston Southern University. In the past two years, he and his wife have traveled to Ireland, Scotland, Norway, and Iceland. They also enjoyed a cruise to Greece, Montenegro, Croatia, and Slovenia. George recently returned from a trip to Istanbul and Athens. He remains active in their local church and serves on their HOA board. There are frequent updates from **John Meyers** as he plans events for Homecoming at McDaniel.

**Craig Merkle** is working only part time and has plans to fully retire this year. His three sons are spread out across the world, with one nearby in Maryland, one in Los Angeles, and one in Vienna, Austria. With two grandchildren in Vienna, he and his wife travel there as much as possible. They have a place in the lake country in Minnesota — their not-so-close getaway for nature, peace, and quiet. They feel blessed and are looking forward to what comes next.

**Chris Dryden Mosberg** retired from teaching in 2021, and **Jamie Mosberg** is finally winding down with his recruiting business to join Chris in retirement. They sold their home in Pennsylvania in July 2025 and bought a smaller home in Broomfield, Colorado, near their youngest son, Josh, and his family. They still have the RV and a small casita and lanai in Myakka River Motorcoach Resort in Port Charlotte, Florida, where they spend winters. Their three sons reside across the country in Asheville, North Carolina; Denver, and Los Angeles. With five grandchildren now, Chris and Jamie travel to see them as much as possible.

**Bruce Belt** just finished his first year of retirement, after serving 23 years in the Army and working 24 years as both a federal employee and a contractor at the Department of Homeland Security. He has enjoyed linking up with **Dave Deitrick, Brian Trumpower**, and other alumni to play golf, and he looks forward to more outings. Bruce plans to move down to the Northern Neck of Virginia on the water soon for more fishing, crabbing, and gardening, as well as trips to North Carolina and time with his children and grandson.

**Rich Norris** and Peg have fully embraced traveling the country and the world. They have



CLASS NOTED

TRUSTEE ALUMNI AWARDS

Two McDaniel alumni received Trustee Alumni Awards, the highest alumni honor given at McDaniel, during the Trustee-Faculty Dinner held on May 8. The 2026 recipients are Alumni Council President-Elect Maureen Carroll Martin '86, a seasoned editor, writer, and communications professional, and Tyler Wilson '95, P'21, P'23, president of the Kiva Group, which specializes in print communication, advertising, and design.



just about finished staying at least one night in all 50 states and are working on visiting as many of the national parks as they can. If they are not driving or using their camper, they are on a cruise! Recent trips include Ireland, the Mediterranean, and New Zealand.

**Keith Appler** is retired and living in Champaign, Illinois, with his wife, Lee, after teaching literature for six years at the United Arab Emirates University and 14 years at the University of Macau. Among other things, he keeps busy with invasive plant removal and reading up on the history, people, and ecology of the Illinois prairie. **Craig Merkle**, **James "Bruce" Whitney '79**, and Keith frequently write each other about the events, and humor, of their days.

**Sherry Wensel Bowers, M.Ed. '84** is still working for the National Institute of Aerospace but is cutting back on hours and trying to figure out how to spend time doing other things. She feels fortunate to live in Yorktown, Virginia, where her daily walks take her past the battlefield, and great kayaking is so close. Sherry is still in close contact with her "munchkin" sorority sisters — **Beth Heckert Tevis '77, M.Ed. '84; Nancy Schwarzkopf Gaffney '77; Nan Hollinger Gangler '77; and Brenda Eccard Dellinger '79.** They get together as often as possible — sometimes in Rehobeth Beach, Delaware, and this past summer in Canada. The loss of **Terry Holland '77** reinforces the need to treasure time with friends. Sherry comes back to Westminster, Maryland, on a regular basis due to work at the college. These trips allow her to connect with **Caroline Babylon '77, M.L.A. '94.**

**Kathy Chandler Armbruster** and **Tom Armbruster '80** continue to live in their small lake cottage in Ithaca, New York. Water sports and hiking are their main activities, as well as having a dunk in the lake after using their sauna! Kathy continues to work seasonally reading international applications for Cornell University, and volunteering as an English language conversation partner with a local nonprofit school. In 2024, **Sherry Wensel Bowers, M.Ed. '84** tapped her to help with an outreach science event in Syracuse, New York, during the total eclipse. Sherry and Kathy were also able to meet up with **Carol Jung Horne '79** and her husband, who were also in the area for the eclipse. Tom and Kathy visit their kids in California from time to time, and last year, they returned to Helsinki, Finland, to celebrate a friend's milestone birthday. Helsinki had been their first overseas assignment in 1988.

**Russell "Russ" Merchant's** current work is centered on creating time freedom through passive cash flow real estate investing. He focuses on acquiring and improving properties while helping families access homeownership opportunities when conventional lending falls short. He is also deeply committed to working with parents and grandparents to break generational cycles and raise resilient adults equipped with financial literacy, critical thinking, and long-term vision.

**Ginny Smoot** retired a couple of years ago after a long career in IT systems and internal auditing. She sold her house in Oakton, Virginia,

and built a home in Wilmington, North Carolina. Now, she spends fall through spring in North Carolina, and spring through fall in Bethany Beach, Delaware. Her license plate reads SAND365! Although she loved living in the D.C. metro area for 40 years, she's enjoying her new snowbird life.

Georgeann Morekas  
1978 Class Reporter  
gnmorekas@gmail.com

1984

**Chris Soto** retired in 2021 and is enjoying eating out, taking long walks with her husband, reading, birding, contra dancing, going to art shows (including her sister's) and concerts, climbing Tennessee mountains, going out with friends, and traveling. In 2024 and 2025, she went to Alaska, Patagonia, and the Christmas markets of Germany. Chris stays in touch with classmates **Jeff Dawson** and **Mary Chaney Dawson, MaryClare Denion Long, Linda Block, Debbie Dale Seidel**, and **Jessica Friedman Chapman.**

After 35 years of working in higher education administration, **Lisa McKinney Freel, M.S. '94** has finally retired! But she still works part time as a consultant and volunteers as much as she can. Lisa and her husband, Chris, love to travel and enjoyed an intensive land-and-sea vacation through Greece and Turkey last year with good friends. They were also delighted to travel to all the national parks in Nevada, Utah, and Arizona with their 30-year-old twin sons, Alex and Josh. After 15 years in Frederick, Maryland, Chris and Lisa moved near the battlefields of Antietam. Little Antietam Creek runs through their property, and they love spending time outside with their Great Pyrenees dog, Zeus. Lisa was on campus last fall for the 100th Anniversary Delt/Phi Mu Reunion and thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with classmates, sorority sisters, and her favorite professor and sorority advisor, **Sue Phoebe Panek '72.** Lisa and Chris keep in contact with **Ralph Frith** and **Char Wirts Frith.**

**Patty McLaughlin** has spent much of the last five years caring for her parents. Before her father passed away in January, Patty did her best to find time for hiking, volunteering with the local park system, visiting the family's cabin in West Virginia, and taking the occasional Volunteer Vacation with the American Hiking Society. She hopes to still get some time at the West Virginia cabin with her mom. In 2025, Patty visited Charleston, South Carolina, for a long weekend with **Deb Hildebrand Hoover, M.S. '02** and **Wendy Gage Carver.** She also maintained and built new hiking trails during two Volunteer Vacations to Catalina Island, California, and Adirondack Park, New York — where she met fellow WMC alum, **Debbie Leopold Stern '89.**

**Andy Bowes** and **Anne Mercer Bowes '85** are still enjoying life at their post-retirement home on the coast of Maine. They keep busy with church activities, their part-time jobs, playing music, supporting the volunteer fire department, and caring for their elderly parents. Recently, they had a great time visiting their grandchildren in both Virginia and Utah.

**Wendy Gage Carver** officially retired in 2022, but she's still enjoying working part time with the Baltimore County Public School Office of Family & Community Engagement. Her husband, Cecil, works from home for Golf Zoo. Whenever they can, they visit their granddaughter, Evelyn Rose, who is "showing a little bit of spice" at 2 years old. Wendy and Cecil took Cecil's dream bass boat up to Vermont last July with their son, Andrew; his wife, Sarah; and Wendy and Cecil's mothers, "The Grandmas." They are grateful that The Grandmas are able to live independently and help with appointments and errands when needed.

**Linda Aberts Christensen** and her husband, Paul, are enjoying life as empty nesters. After spending two winters in Florida and this past long, cold winter in the Poconos, they decided they like the warmth better. So, next year? Warm again! Linda joined the Wyoming Valley chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and is enjoying their volunteer work. For the first time, she participated in Wreaths Across America. She also does a lot of genealogy research and helps others research their family trees. Linda and Paul's son is newly engaged, and their daughter is looking forward to her graduation and Air Force Commissioning.

**Audrey Adams Bigelow** and her husband, Mike, share a house in Springfield, Virginia, with their younger son, Drew, and the family gecko, Raphael. Their older son, Buster, teaches middle school band in Virginia Beach, where he lives with his wife, Jen, and their dog, Archie. Mike has been command historian at the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command for 20 years, and Audrey has been with the Fairfax County Public Library for 15 years. Last June, Audrey traveled to Brazil with The City Choir of Washington, where they had one concert in São Paulo and three in Rio de Janeiro. The coolest part for Audrey was singing at the base of the Christ the Redeemer statue! Audrey and Mike assist in caring for her Aunt Faith (100), her mom (86), and Mike's mom (almost 90). After Audrey's dad, Joe Adams, passed away in 2025, she and her stepmom, Charlene, planned a lovely funeral for him, and he was interred at Arlington National Cemetery. Audrey and her twin sister, **Krystie Adams Herndon**, were touched that **Heidi Snyder Wethered, M.S. '86** and **Debby Neely Kennedy** came to Arlington, Virginia, to honor their dad.

Having lived in a high-rise apartment building on the Indiana University Bloomington campus for decades, **Krystie Adams Herndon** and her husband, Tim, moved to a neighborhood on the east side of town in June 2025. They are enjoying life on the ground floor and being able to step out into fresh air! The other big change, as noted by Krystie's twin sister **Audrey Adams Bigelow**, was the passing of their 90-year-old father, three days before Christmas in 2025. Audrey, Krystie, and Krystie's daughter, Grace, were honored to sing a trio piece at his funeral. As a decorated Vietnam War hero, their dad was buried in Arlington National Cemetery in March.

Larry and **Linda Lang Hubble** continue to explore Arizona, their adopted state for the past three years. One of Linda's favorite activities is to search for and watch wild mustangs, and Arizona's clear skies and low humidity make perfect conditions for Larry's astronomy. The

only downside to their new home is missing folks on the East Coast. Larry and Linda have two sons, Rick and Eric, who are both doing well.

Several Phi Alph classmates appointed **Debbie Dale Seidel** as their spokesperson and approved the following updates. Debbie writes for **Anne Cole Heydrick, Beth Dorrian Carlin, Char Wirts Frith, Cindy Leonard Keeney, Kathy Lyhus Dixon, Kate Wagner Miller, Mimi Fannon Gilinsky, Patty Jones Wooten, and Tree Parker Rounds.** The group meets monthly for dinner and are often travel buddies. In September, **Debbie** enjoyed a week hiking El Camino de Santiago in Spain and Portugal with **Char, Beth, Cindy,** and **Ludley Howard's** wife, Debra. **Beth, Debra,** and **Debbie** also toured Madrid and Lisbon. **Cindy** and **Char** spent two weeks hiking before **Char** relaxed in southern Portugal with her husband, **Ralph Frith.** In November, **Char** hosted an amazing island getaway at the Friths' vacation home in Exuma, Bahamas. Several of the group are now retired and a few — **Cindy, Anne, Kate,** and **Mimi** — are grandparents. **Patty** and **Anne** are into pickleball and volunteering at an animal rescue. **Beth** and **Tree** are regular golfers, and **Kathy** is leading a few people through the Maryland State Park 250 Mile Hike Challenge. **Kathy** also runs a successful residential real estate firm, The Dixon/Kluge Group, in Eldersburg, Maryland, and has handled several real estate transactions for her Phi Alph sisters and their families. **Cindy** and her husband, George, are busy with their inn and restaurant, Mansion House 1757, in Fairfield, Pennsylvania. They love seeing WMC or McDaniel alumni at the inn. **Kate** and Doug are often in Pennsylvania visiting their grandsons. A few years ago, **Kate** transitioned to social work at Bridging Life Hospice and finds the work fulfilling. **Char** and **Ralph** have been traveling the world, going to Colombia, Panama, Africa, Germany, Japan, and Canada. **Debbie** and Ethan joined **Beth** and Bob on a Norway cruise last summer after a few days in Iceland. **Anne** retired in December. She and her husband, Dave, travel often to North Carolina to visit their son and his family, but they also find time for trips to Las Vegas and Myrtle Beach. **Tree** and Rich had a memorable trip to Hawaii with their daughter, and **Mimi** and Lew enjoyed a family vacation in Greece. **Debbie** serves on a few boards, including the McDaniel College Board of Trustees. She and Ethan are co-chairs of Reaching New Heights: The Campaign for McDaniel College. She hopes her 1984 classmates will think about making a donation to the campaign to help McDaniel remain the strong liberal arts college that we know and love.

**Laney Fisher Howard** became Grammie for the first time in 2023 when her grandson, Alden, was born, and then for a second time when she welcomed her granddaughter, Sylvie, in 2025. Laney has served 20 years with the Somerset County Maryland State's Attorney's Office as a victim/witness coordinator, but retirement is right around the corner. Though retirement feels surreal to Laney, she is looking forward to it and hopes it brings more opportunities to babysit the grands. Laney's husband, Ronnie, remains the sheriff of their county.

For 31 years, **Amy Morgan** has worked in higher education, 24 of them as a professor of

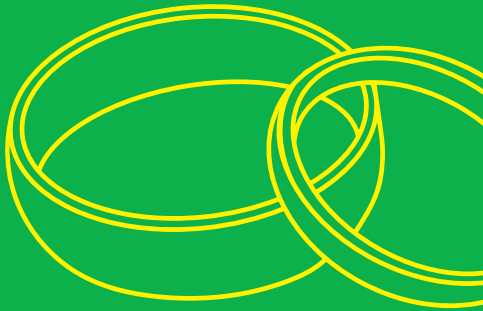
WE DID!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLYWEDS!

Alex Stitely '18, M.S. '19 to Justin Bussard on June 20, 2026.

Jade Enright '20 to Cooper Hostetler '20 on Aug. 10, 2024.

Christina Baker '23 to James "Jimmy" Schmidt '23 on July 12, 2025.



# IN MEMORIAM

## TRUSTEE DR. MILLARD MAZER ’83

McDaniel College trustee Dr. Millard Mazer ’83 of Baltimore died on Friday, March 20.

Mazer, a board-certified periodontist, earned a bachelor’s degree in Mathematics and Computer Science from the college in 1983, graduating with academic awards and honors. He proceeded to earn a Doctor of Dental Surgery from the University of Maryland and completed his formal education with postdoctoral programs in advanced education in general dentistry, followed by a postdoctoral program in periodontics at Emory University’s School of Postgraduate Dentistry.

He served as a member of the McDaniel College Board of Trustees since 2023.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Elkin Mazer, and his children, Mark Elkin Mazer, Julie Elkin Mazer, and David Elkin Mazer ’23.



Exercise Physiology at Bowling Green University in Ohio. Her job has afforded her the opportunity to travel with students to the coast of Wales. Like others from our class, Amy spends considerable time assisting aging parents.

Indianapolis has been home for **Werner Winkler** for the past 31 years. He retired from flying medical transport helicopters at the end of 2020 and has been working at a family-owned gun store since 2021 as a certified handgun instructor and a sales associate. He also volunteers as a co-facilitator of the divorce care program at his church. Werner enjoys visiting his daughter and son-in-law in Colorado Springs. While he likes hiking in the lower foothills, he chose to drive to the top of Pike’s Peak. Werner spent last Christmas in Tampa with his marine captain son and got to experience his daughter-in-law’s Colombian Christmas traditions. Werner no longer lives alone since his kids convinced him to rescue two cats last year. He likens it to living with preschoolers!

**Ken “Chip” Fox** keeps busy running three small businesses: online sales, fireworks, and a crafting business. He also continues to judge marching band and color guard competitions. Over 30 years of judging, mentoring, and education have paid off, as Ken was recently inducted into the National Judges Association Hall of Fame. He resides with two cats, whom he describes as feral, but perhaps not for long. They made the move from hanging out in the driveway to living in his garage. Ken hopes warmer weather will afford him the opportunity to organize his garage into a better living space for them.

Though retired, **Chuck Pierpont** and his husband still own their company, Flagship Trivia. Chuck writes 70 questions a week and serves as the host at three of his six venues each week. He and his husband live in Sharpsburg, Maryland, and write trivia for venues in both Maryland and West Virginia. Retirement affords them the opportunity to

travel, and their favorite method is cruising. They have been to Antarctica, the Arctic Circle, the Caribbean, Mexico, Italy, Greece, and most recently, the Panama Canal. More cruises are already planned. Chuck regularly enjoys the company of other McDaniel classmates. Recently, he joined **Peter Roof, Kris Nystrom Snyder ’85, Beth White Werrell ’83, Louise Herrera Scalzi ’81, M.S. ’88, and Mike Scalzi ’85** for bowling and dinner.

For 26 years, **Darcy Smith Turner** and her husband, Tom, have lived in Phoenix, Maryland, not far from **Debbie Federico** and **Maria Maranto Yanson**. Darcy and Tom’s daughter, Ava, recently finished her master’s degree in Finance at Johns Hopkins University and is now working for a West Coast-based startup investment bank. Thanks to **Beth Gray Knudsen**’s husband, Ejnar, Ava enjoyed an amazing internship at AGR Partners. Darcy and Tom’s son, Andrei, is studying Architecture and Business at Hobart College while playing squash. Darcy is considering starting a business now that she is retired after 34 years of environmental work. She and Tom have thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with **Ken Fahmy ’85** and **Heather Rembert Fahmy ’85** at their new house in Great Falls, Virginia, and had a blast at the 2026 Betes’ reunion at the Mt. Washington Tavern.

**William “Bill” Livingston** also enjoyed attending the Bete-Phi Alpha reunion at the Mt. Washington Tavern. He reports that it was well attended by both Betes and Phi Alphs, and it was good to catch up with folks he hadn’t seen in years. The event was organized by **Dave Cadigan ’89, Chris Newman ’88, and Jay Updike ’85**.

Another recent retiree is **Paul Jackosky**, who sends his best from northeast Ohio. He recently had a visit from his daughter, who lives in Texas. They visited all her favorite hometown Cleveland spots. Paul’s son Nick also visited from California to be inducted into his high school’s Sports Hall of Fame for track and cross country. Paul’s retirement gig is working at the Cleveland

Browns football games and special events. His previous career path included 17 years in the technology industry, a master’s degree in Special Education, 15 years of teaching, and seven years serving with a local nonprofit. Paul’s 3-year-old pit bull will enjoy having him home more.

**Lea Ruggiero O’Shea** is not quite ready for retirement yet. She is still with Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) in learning and development and received her coaching certification from the International Coaching Federation last fall. When she departs BMS, she hopes to continue to help people through life and leadership coaching. In 2021, Lea moved from New Jersey to Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and loves it. Her oldest son got married last fall, so hopefully, grandparenting is next. Lea’s latest adventure was surfing in Costa Rica. She is very proud to say that she was able to stand up and ride the waves but admits it is definitely something she should have started when she was younger.

**Linda Block** doesn’t seem to be slowing down. She works part time at the Children & Family Resource Center, facilitating parent conversation circles and teaching parenting classes in Spanish and English. She also teaches clogging and flatfoot dance and performs with the Green Grass Cloggers. Music also brings joy into Linda’s life. She plays soprano recorder and random percussion instruments, including her feet, with a Celtic/old-time band called Trippin’ Up the Stairs at local bars and festivals. Highlights of Linda’s trip to Ireland last summer included playing in a real Irish session and taking Sean-nós dance lessons. Linda and her partner, Tim, have been together for 17 years, her weekly free Spanish conversation group turned 19 years old this year, and Linda still volunteers as a community mediator and mediator coach. In between all of that, she remains an avid journalist and plays music for English country dances.

Though retired from Carroll County Public Schools, **Ann Blizzard Dell, M.S. ’89** keeps busy by regularly serving as a substitute teacher and volunteering for two Carroll County nonprofits: Caring Carroll and Shepherd’s Staff. She and her husband visit their sons and daughters-in-law in Washington, D.C., and Tennessee as often as they can and recently enjoyed a cruise of the Great Lakes.

**Ann Hilton Horn** and her husband took their dream trip to Ireland and Scotland and explored their Scottish ancestry. Ann gained a daughter-in-law in 2025 when their son got married in Las Vegas, in true Elvis fashion. Ann still serves as an adjunct professor for Stevenson University, and she works with a virtual master’s program for teachers in STEM content. She often sees **Erin O’Connell Peiffer ’83, Beth White Werrell ’83, Debbie Armsworthy Shifflet ’83, Annette Horn Seiler ’83, M.Ed. ’85, and Jane Krug ’83**, and runs into **Kathy Eichelberger Barna ’85** around Carroll County from time to time.

**Laurie Ensor Bullock** and her husband of 39 years are enjoying their first grandchild, a beautiful, healthy girl. They still live in Westminster, Maryland, and work in the family business, Westminster Lawn Service. Their two daughters are married and live in Annapolis, Maryland, and Falls Church, Virginia. They look forward to their family gatherings.

**Matthew Ponton** and Colleen are retired and living in Lewes, Delaware. They have enjoyed many cruises to the Caribbean, New England, and Canada. They are thankful to have their parents living close and welcome the opportunity to care for them, allowing their parents to stay in their homes. Matthew and Colleen get back to Maryland often to visit family in Annapolis and make annual trips to Williamsburg, Virginia.

**Jeff Trice** is still on the Eastern Shore and reports memorable vacation trips to Nova Scotia and Michigan. Perhaps most exciting is that last year, Jeff biked in the Tour de l’Île de Montréal, a 100-mile trek from Burlington, Vermont, to Montreal, Canada. On the last day, Montreal closes the streets to vehicles, and the bikers loop around the city. Jeff and his wife now have two grand-dogs: a husky mix and a border collie, both great fun when visiting the kids in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

**Vic Culatta** received a new right knee at the end of last summer. After a couple of months of physical therapy, he was walking over cobblestones and exploring cathedrals and castles in Europe as part of a Christmas markets river cruise through the Netherlands, France, Germany, and Switzerland. The last time Vic traveled to Switzerland was during a Jan Term study tour in 1984, and this trip brought to mind great memories of adventures with WMC friends 40 years ago. Vic still thinks living in Palm Springs, California, is awesome, because who wouldn’t love 80-degree days in January?

**James Startt**, who still calls Paris home, covered his 36th Tour de France this past year, a record for American journalists and photographers. He recently accepted a position as creative director at inGamba, a professional luxury cycling travel company, and spends much of his working day creating content for the brand. When he is not

photographing or writing, James can be seen regularly in Paris with his old-school soul funk band, The Hypnotiks.

Life shows no sign of slowing down at the Kennedy house, according to **Debbie Nealy Kennedy**. With four teenagers, one adult child, four dogs, a cat, and Debbie’s mom living at the house, as well as five other kids, five kids-in-law, and nine grandkids, there is rarely a dull moment. Christmas was wonderful with 28 family members squeezed around the tree. All of the kids are close by, with the exception of Dan and his family in Japan and Rachel and her family in Texas. There was some sadness in summer 2025 when Debbie and Mark’s son and daughter-in-law had a son, Seamus, who was born with genetic problems and could only live outside the womb for a little more than an hour. Mark still teaches engineering at Geneva College, and Debbie spends her days trying to keep up with everyone’s schedules. Debbie sees **Heidi Snyder Wethered, M.S. ’86** and **Audrey Adams Bigelow** as often as possible.

**Scott Blackburn** had planned to retire, but his role as director of sales has that plan on ice for a while. His grandkid collection totals four now, and Bikram yoga and pickleball keep him moving.

After four rewarding decades of federal service, **James “Ed” Proctor** is embracing retirement with enthusiasm, and says that at age 62, an unexpected engagement ushered in a joyful new chapter for his life. He is dedicating more time to his love of travel and fine-art photography, sharing new adventures on his business website, Travel With Us Too. James was deeply honored to receive the Alumni College Service Award in 2026.

**Tom Zimmer** is embracing retirement after 40 years of a career in education. He and his wife, **Beth Chapman Zimmer ’85**, live in Ocean City, Maryland. Beth is still doing some part-time bookkeeping, but they finally have more time to travel. Tom and Beth spent two weeks in Italy in October 2025 and were in the Keys in November 2025. When not traveling, they stay very busy with their eight grandchildren.

In our household, we are half retired. My husband, **Mike Conner ’82**, left his career in biotech this year. He is enjoying a low-stress job at a local nursery and pursuing his true passion: woodturning. I recently took on a new role as the executive assistant to the chancellor of the University System of Maryland and look forward to continuing to serve Maryland higher education. Two of our three children live in Maryland, so we see them and our three grandchildren and grand-dog often! Our youngest son is a musician in Memphis, and we thoroughly enjoy traveling to see him play. We continue to enjoy our treasured family beach trips to the Outer Banks in North Carolina. We see **Paul Parlette ’83** and **Nancy Turner Parlette ’83** often, and we were able to connect with **Mark Sanko** and **Val Jewett Sanko** during a trip to Pennsylvania this winter.

*Michele Hutschenreuter Conner  
1984 Class Reporter  
michele.conner19@gmail.com*

# ARRIVED

## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY, FUTURE GREEN TERRORS!

Savannah in December 2025 to **Erin McKeon ’08**.

Piper in December 2025 to **Lee Oliver McWhirter ’08** and Kenny McWhirter.

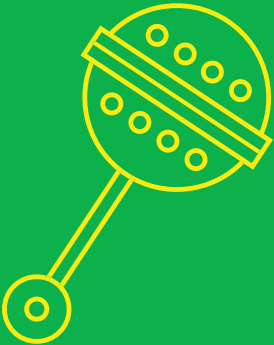
Ada in February 2025 to **Kelly Neel ’08** and Laura Whitehead.

Lochlan in September 2025 to **Monica Parcell Filips ’14** and Steven Filips.

Amelia in April 2025 to **Joseph Odierno ’14** and **Colette Kellen Odierno ’16**.

Marcus in December 2025 to **Erin Giles Benevento ’15** and **Calvin Benevento ’15**.

Jameson in December 2025 to **Sam Stitely Janiga ’15, M.S. ’18** and Ray Janiga.



1990

**Julie Biddinger Jones** says it’s “hard to believe we started on the Hill 40 years ago.” She relishes getting together with friends she met while she was a student and while working in the Admissions Office. In other milestones, she and Bill are celebrating 22 years of marriage this year. Their daughter, Angie, is a sophomore at University of North Carolina Wilmington and spent this past spring studying in Florence. Julie says that she and Bill were happy to have a reason to go visit! Their son, Derek, graduated from high school in the spring, was sorting through his college options at last report, and has been enjoying taking flying lessons at the Westminster airport. Julie continues to work as an assistant for 3-year-olds at the preschool her children attended.

**Mark “Jaws” Jozwiak** sends a hello from Baytown, “deep in the heart of Texas.” He and **Jonelle Leith Jozwiak ’92** celebrated their 34th wedding anniversary this year, and it’s their 14th year living in Baytown, where Mark is in his 36th year of coaching and teaching. (A closed-notes math quiz will follow this report.) He coaches football, basketball, and the throwers on the track teams. Their son, Wes, got married, and their daughter, Emily, is studying Sports Media at Tarleton State University. In his spare time, Mark still fishes and plays golf as much as possible.

**Wendy Wilson Leatherman** writes, “Life after homeschooling my twins finds me at my happy place in my dream job!” She teaches crochet at The Yarn Shop in Hagerstown, Maryland, where, as she puts it, she gets “paid to play with yarn.” Wendy loves the fiber-arts community and connects with artists from all over the country. Her family continues to serve at Longmeadow Church of the Brethren, where her husband has been pastor for 18 years. She says it’s a joy to worship with their adopted family and amazing to be a part of God’s movement in their lives as they pray for each other. Wendy keeps in touch with **Ted Graves** and **Jessica Diller Graves ’88, M.S. ’90**, and she receives a wonderful Christmas card every year from **Roland McCahan ’89**.

**Lisa Diffenbaugh Maher, M.S. ’93** writes to say that she just finished her 16th year as an elementary school counselor with Carroll County Public Schools. She and her husband, Dennis, celebrated their 35th anniversary in December, and they bought a second home in Ocean Pines, Maryland. Their oldest son, Ryan, and his wife, Megan, welcomed Mia Nicole in February, making Lisa and Dennis grandparents for the first time! Their daughter, Rachel, earned her doctorate in Physical Therapy in December. Their youngest son, Brennan, married his high school sweetheart, Jackie, in June 2025. Lisa says she keeps in touch with **Julie Biddinger Jones** and **Sandy Metz Borns ’89, M.S. ’93**.

After more than 33 years in higher education leadership, **Rob Paul** is now “test-driving retirement.” He lives in Scottsdale, Arizona, with his wife, Wendy, and their daughter, Amelia, — whenever she’s home from the University of Hawaii. Rob jokes that any trip to drop Amelia off or pick her up somehow turns into a two-week stay — an “occupational hazard” of island parenting, he says. Rob remains connected with many of the 1980s and 1990s Sig Eps,

including having dinners with **Mark Mulle** and **Paul Borneyek ’91**, and enjoying Homecoming cocktails with **Glenn Anderson ’91, Rick Callen ’92, Jeff McAndrew ’92**, and **Ed Singer ’87**. For fun, Rob has blended his leadership experience with his McDaniel English major roots into The One Minute Mentor, where he shares brief leadership insights on YouTube, LinkedIn, TikTok, and Instagram.

**Jenny Otto Ramirez** is still living in Stillwater, Oklahoma, where she works as a teaching associate professor of Art History at Oklahoma State University (OSU). Her spouse, Howard Sanborn, is a political science professor at OSU, and their son, Penn, is a kindergartener. Jenny explains that it is “somewhat disorienting” living in the middle of the country after moving there from the East Coast, but she says her family is getting to know the area and enjoying visits to Tulsa and Oklahoma City. Jenny’s three older kids are in Virginia: Sander is working at UVA University Hospital, Zoe is an Art major at Virginia Commonwealth University, and Sage is a Health Sciences major at Virginia Tech. Jenny enjoys keeping up with dear WMC friends **Kelly Wiles Loiacono, Kelly Sell, Tracey Holter Zirfas**, and **Jennifer Dempsey Oberfeld**.

**Doug Ripley, M.S. ’02** is currently in his 35th year of teaching and working with special education students at a middle school in Howard County, Maryland. Outside of the classroom, he continues to stay active by running, which he says has been an important part of maintaining balance and energy in his life. At home, his family is entering a new stage as well — both of his sons will be in high school beginning in the fall of 2026.

**Becky Cosentino Robertson** and her husband are still living in Davidsonville, Maryland, with their daughter, who graduated from Penn State in May 2025 and now attends grad school at Loyola University. They love the frequent visits they get from their son, who graduated from St. Mary’s College of Maryland in 2024 and lives and works in Annapolis, Maryland. They’ve begun spending lots of time in Fenwick Island, Delaware, and “shore” are loving that new adventure with family and friends. Becky adds that she continues to work full time as a vice president in Booz Allen Hamilton’s national cyber business in Annapolis Junction, Maryland, where she feels incredibly humbled by the amazing technologists and leaders with whom she works every day. She sends out a special hello to fellow 1990 classmates **Kathy Eskut Pellet** and **Jenny Dempsey Oberfeld**.

**Beth Sullivan** just celebrated 20 years at Duke University, where she is the James B. Duke Distinguished Professor of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology and associate dean for research training in the School of Medicine. She balances her administrative role overseeing 15 Ph.D. training programs with her genetics research lab. She is particularly proud of her group’s recent contribution to the 2022 Telomere-to-Telomere human DNA assembly, a global collaboration that identified every A-C-T-G from one end of each chromosome to the other without gaps or mistakes and uncovered previously hidden disease genes and mutations. Beth also teaches undergraduates each fall semester in a multi-course program with **Susanne Laws Haga ’94**. Beth’s two furry canine sidekicks, Pawley and

Percy, keep her busy, and she enjoys spending time with her family who are now all living in North Carolina.

I completed year 30 of teaching math at the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) in June 2025. My three oldest kids are all in college, and the two youngest are, sadly, *also* showing academic chops. I’ve been writing film and TV reviews for WORLD Magazine for about 12 years. I play full-court basketball and enjoy teaching my kids the ups and downs of the sport. My over-50 team won gold at the Maryland Senior Olympics in June 2025 and placed ninth at the national tournament in Iowa the following month. My daughter has no qualms about being a ball hog in her middle school games. Makes Daddy so proud. Lisa and I get away annually to exotic places like San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Hartford, Connecticut. I also travel to Uganda once a year to teach doctrinal classes to other pastors. Lastly, I continue to write and record music with my “nontraditional vocal mechanics.”

*Bob Brown  
1990 Class Reporter  
moronmusic@yahoo.com*

1996

**Susan Foreman White, M.S. ’97** is enjoying life in the Annapolis, Maryland, area where she has lived since 2006. After 28 years in special education, she is looking forward to retirement in 2028 and is excited for the opportunity to slow down and travel more. She has continued her advocacy work, serving as the president of The Reading League Maryland and on many district and state advisories for special education and literacy. On the home front, she is in her chauffeur era, driving her teens to all of their activities and enjoying the latest season with them.

**Cindy Slaughter** is still residing in Towson, Maryland, while she raises her two teenage boys. In the past few years she has rebranded her interior design business, which is now called Belle and Bungalow, performing design-on-a-dime services primarily in Baltimore County. Cindy is also selling her beautiful upcycled soy candles called Vessels by Cindy at The Market at Dover Station located in Easton, Maryland. Since she was last able to send an update, she has become the step-grandmother to five grandbabies, whom she and her husband see often. Recently, Cindy and **Marcie Delahoz-Mason, M.S. ’10** reconnected to see Amy Sherald’s exhibit at the Baltimore Museum of Art, and she and **James Felton ’95, M.S. ’98** also connected for a long overdue brunch to discuss his new role at Fordham University. Occasionally, Cindy has lunch with former roommate “Shanabananana,” aka **Shana Burdick Hospelhorn ’95**. She also enjoys catching up with her neighbor, **Cooper Long ’94**, on long walks or at the neighborhood pool. They still discuss getting the annual **Todd Knellinger ’93** Croquet Tournament back on the calendar. She is in regular communication with **Rebecca Friedman ’97, Kerri Reyelt Lear ’97**, and **Melissa Baldwin ’97**.

IN MEMORIAM

REMEMBERING THESE DEARLY DEPARTED MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

**Virginia “Pip” Phillips ’43** on Feb. 28, 2026.

**Rachel Ennis Estepp ’50** on Feb. 18, 2026.

**Edward Klohr ’51** on Dec. 5, 2025.

**Henry “Hank” Landy ’52** on Dec. 4, 2025.

**John Haslip ’54** on Dec. 6, 2025.

**Adeline Allen Parker ’54** on April 12, 2026.

**Carol Brown Smith ’54** on Nov. 22, 2025.

**Eugene “Gene” Goll ’56** on April 12, 2026.

**Anna Baker ’57** on Dec. 10, 2024.

**Beverly Lochbaum Brash ’57** on Aug. 18, 2025.

**John Allen ’58** on Jan. 2, 2025.

**Shirley Stevick Baucom ’58** on May 14, 2025.

**Christine “Chris” Reichenbecker Boner ’61** on Jan. 30, 2026.

**Joan Hesson Myers ’61** on Jan. 13, 2026.

**W. Arthur Benson Sr. ’62** on Jan. 26, 2025.

**Donald “Don” Barnes ’63** on April 14, 2026.

**Natalie Bloodsworth ’63** on March 10, 2026.

**Martha McVeary Reider ’63** on Jan. 9, 2025.

**W. King Smith ’63** on Dec. 3, 2025.

**George “Tom” Wilhide ’63** on March 1, 2026.

**Kennard “Ken” Bowman ’64** on Sept. 16, 2024.

**J. Streett Broadbent ’64** on April 19, 2026.

**Mary Fisher Krieger ’65** on Nov. 1, 2024.

**Helen Volpel Blakey ’67** on Oct. 24, 2025.

**Muriel Pickel Sabo M.Ed. ’67** on April 24, 2026.

**Jeffrey Ibx ’68** on May 31, 2026.

**Vivien “Lynne” Carothers ’69** on April 8, 2026.

**Patrick “Pat” Fleeharty ’69** on Oct. 9, 2025.

**Richard King ’69** on Aug. 14, 2025.

**Charles McElrath ’69** on Feb. 9, 2025.

**Hugh Friend M.Ed. ’71** on July 12, 2025.

**Warner “Joe” Waters Jr. ’71** on Feb. 26, 2026.

**Jeffrey Bell ’72** on Nov. 28, 2024.

**David Solow ’72** on Feb. 3, 2026.

**Tina Mantakos Wiles ’72, P’03** on Feb. 2, 2025.

**Carl Kaltreider ’73** on June 11, 2025.

**Harvey Doster ’74** on Feb. 18, 2026.

**Alan Engel ’74** on April 11, 2026.

**Mary Catherine “M.C.” DeRosa ’74** on June 14, 2025.

**Carolyn Dillon Carter ’75** on June 20, 2025.

**Rita Spencer M.Ed. ’75** on July 5, 2025.

**Marjorie “Marj” Roy Espenschade ’76** on May 13, 2026.

**William “Bill” Treherne ’77** on March 31, 2026.

**John “Jay” Moore ’78** on Nov. 26, 2024.

**Joan Carroll Lockman M.Ed. ’81** on Jan. 25, 2025.

**Jamie Pecoraro ’82** on May 31, 2026.

**Craig Clary ’83** on Feb. 5, 2026.

**Millard Mazer ’83, P’23** on March 20, 2026.

**Jay Bass ’84** on Nov. 15, 2024.

**Carlos “Los” Ortega ’85** on May 1, 2026.

**Eugene Radel M.S. ’90** on April 25, 2026.

**Amy Fowler Granato ’91** on Jan. 13, 2026.

**Gary Wilson M.L.A. ’92** on March 8, 2026.

**Amy Sheridan Donathan ’99** on May 2, 2026.

**Mark Resch ’99** on Dec. 17, 2025.

**Lynn McIntyre Zebrowski M.S. ’99** on April 2, 2026.

**Jeffery Williams M.L.A. ’08** on March 11, 2026.

**Nathaniel Conn ’16** on Dec. 28, 2025.

**Asa Nugent ’26** on March 31, 2026.

CLASS NOTED

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2026 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS!

The McDaniel College Alumni Association honored six alumni who personify the college’s tradition of excellence as recipients of the 2026 Alumni Association Awards during Alumni Weekend. The recipients included: (pictured below, left to right, with President Julia Jasken at center)

STEVEN JOHNSON ‘87, M.S. ‘95  
The Joseph R. Bailer Award

LIZ CLARK ‘99  
Professional Achievement Award

TASHA CRAMER ‘12  
Recent Alum Award

CHUCK SULLIVAN ‘72  
Alum of the Year Award

JAMES PROCTOR III ‘84  
College Service Award

JESSICA WATSON ‘05  
Community Service Award



I still reside in Sterling, Virginia, with my wife **Amy Rice Mirra ‘97** and our children Kyle and Abby. Kyle has completed his junior year at James Madison University (JMU) as a Computer Science major. Abby set her high school’s career records for goals in both field hockey and lacrosse this year, and she’ll be joining her brother at JMU in the fall with plans to enter the Nursing program. We won’t be complete empty nesters, though, thanks to our two Australian Shepherds, Olive and Westley. I’ve been in touch recently with **Ridge Knauff, Becky Duex-Laurence, Eric Farrow, Seth Noone, Blair St. Amand, and Kevin Koretzki ‘97**. Best wishes to everyone, and make sure that you keep in touch!

David Mirra  
1996 Class Reporter  
312 Tramore Court  
Sterling, VA 20164  
vadavem@yahoo.com

2002

**Christina “Tina” Carlson Sanders** has been with Booz Allen Hamilton for 16 years, where she currently serves as a program manager and leads a contract providing distance learning support to NAVAIR in Patuxent River, Maryland. She and her husband reside in La Plata, Maryland, and stay busy raising their children,

Brodhi (18) and Skylar (15). Between college preparations, baseball, and competitive dance, the family is always on the move. Tina still keeps in touch with her college roommate of four years, **Katie Mavity White**, and they continue their tradition of attending the Maryland Wine Festival in Westminster, Maryland, each year, often meeting up with other alumni, including **Christy Dotson Calvert, M.S. ‘08** and **Amanda Garner Tayag**.

**Michael Damian Coleman** reached a professional milestone back in March when his company rang the opening bell at The New York Stock Exchange. Michael currently serves as managing director of government affairs for United States Antimony Corporation, a critical minerals and mining company. When he is not on Capitol Hill, he is working across Montana, Idaho, and Alaska advancing initiatives to support America’s critical mineral supply chain. He shares this success with a nod to his former professors, including Dr. Kevin McIntyre.

**Jeremy Keil** published his first book, “Retire Today: Create Your Retirement Master Plan in 5 Simple Steps,” in August 2025. The book outlines the planning process Jeremy has developed over his 23 years as a financial advisor. His wife, Robyn, continues her work as an elementary school counselor and leads their daughters’ Girl Scout troops. Their 14-year-old daughter, Emery, is active in high school soccer and the church band, while 12-year-old Harper

is in middle school and recently finished her first musical production. The family resides near Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Jeannie Bauder Landgraf** and her family relocated to Wenonah, New Jersey, in the summer of 2023. Her husband, **Rick Landgraf ‘03**, retired from the Army two years ago as a lieutenant colonel after 20 years of service. They have two children: Layla, 11, who enjoys horseback riding and ballet, and Cam, 7, who loves soccer. Jeannie has spent the past three years teaching Spanish to fifth and sixth graders but looks forward to returning to second- or third-grade classrooms soon.

**Amy Davidson Latta** is enjoying a new creative venture designing fabric for Andover Fabrics. Her first three collections — Bloom and Sew, Sunny Honey, and Oh Say Can You Sew — are available nationwide. Amy also continues to teach workshops and promote creativity through her website, television appearances, and books. Her latest title, “Quilting for Everyone,” was published in August 2025, and she is currently writing a drawing workbook for children. Amy and her husband live in Hampstead, Maryland, and are celebrating their 25th anniversary. They have two sons in college: one at Liberty University and one at University of Maryland, College Park.

**Mark Nasr** reflects fondly on his time at McDaniel College while serving as an international civil servant at the International

Atomic Energy Agency headquarters in Vienna, Austria. Since graduation, Mark has lived in Austin, Vienna, Brussels, New Delhi, Rome, Abu Dhabi, and Dubai. He remains unmarried and spends his free time traveling, exercising, and practicing Wing Tsun kung fu. He encourages current undergraduates to savor every moment on the beautiful campus, noting that the experience is one to be cherished for a lifetime.

**Jack Sorto** is currently living in Stafford, Virginia. He works for the Fairfax County Juvenile Court Services as a probation counselor.

**Chris Taugher** lives in Westminster, Maryland, with his wife, Jessica, and their 13-year-old daughter, Laila. This year marks his 20th at T. Rowe Price, and he is often found enthusiastically coaching Laila’s sports teams on the sidelines. Last summer, Chris and Jessica returned to Belize for a trip with two other couples, including **Dave Fedorchak ‘03** and his wife, Jen. Chris recently became ordained through the Universal Life Church and officiated his sister’s wedding in Durham, North Carolina, on March 21. He continues to stay connected with his Phi Delta Theta brothers.

After 23 years at Mount Saint Joseph High School in Baltimore, I, **Emily Wilson Rollins**, turned the page to a new professional chapter in March 2025, joining the advancement team at Loyola University Maryland. On the home front, Ellis Rollins continues his work as an attorney. Our daughter, Sophia, is now studying Nursing at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut, and Juliet is keeping us busy at Mercy High School in Baltimore, while she also plays varsity and travel softball and leads the literary club. My nephew, Avery Cummings ‘26, graduated from McDaniel in May!

Emily Wilson Rollins  
2002 Class Reporter  
emily.w.rollins@gmail.com

2008

**Tim Snyder, M.S. ‘10** lives in Frederick, Maryland, with his wife, Kristin, and their children, Kenna and Teague. He recently completed his 15th year at Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS), where he currently serves as a teacher specialist for Leadership and Organizational Development. Tim’s first 12 years were spent as an elementary and middle school art teacher and a high school and college track and cross country coach. A former McDaniel track and cross country student-athlete, Tim remains in close contact with several of his former teammates, including **Sean Allen ‘10, Kevin Bowman ‘09, Cody Crutchley ‘09, and Dan White ‘09**. Tim received the FCPS Teacher of the Year Award, an achievement he attributes in large part to McDaniel’s Education program. He’s proud to have earned his bachelor’s degree, master’s degree, and administrative certificate from McDaniel. Adding to this long-standing connection, his wife, Kristin, is the great-granddaughter of Western Maryland College President and Class of 1918 alum **Fred Garrigus Holloway**.

**Christine Boynton** is living near Boston and working as an aviation journalist. She and her husband, Brian, still enjoy traveling as much as possible and recently celebrated their 10-year wedding anniversary with a trip to Italy. Outside of work, the two are renovating an older home, spoiling their new goddaughter, Brooke, and exploring their city with their English bulldog, Odis. Christine enjoys “McZoom” catch-up calls with fellow ‘08 alums.

**Monique Washirapunya’s** bakery, Gateau Monique Bakery, celebrated 11 years of business in December 2025. She has enjoyed connecting with the local school district to help with culinary classes. She was blessed to travel to Bolivia to teach culinary skills to young girls living in an orphanage. Monique has appreciated many opportunities to speak with students about entrepreneurship and running a small family business.

**Lee Oliver McWhirter** and her husband, Kenny, welcomed their third child, daughter Piper Oliver McWhirter, at the end of December. Big brother Trip (6) and big sister Wiona (4) are absolutely thrilled with their new sibling. The family resides in Woodbine, Maryland, and Lee continues to serve as the vice president of private client at Howard Insurance in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

In February 2025, **Kelly Neel** and her wife, Laura, welcomed their first child, Ada Whitehead-Neel — a sweet little firecracker, full of smiles and joy! After returning from maternity leave, Kelly transitioned into an exciting new role at work, becoming the portfolio and supply chain manager of the import and distribution company Well Crafted Wine & Beverage.

**Timothy Neeson** celebrated his 15-year anniversary at Agilent Technologies in November 2025. He works on the digital, analytics, and strategy team, managing two alternative buying models and making it easier and faster for customers to purchase critical bioanalytical supplies. He also leads environmental volunteer efforts with local parks and preserves near the Agilent sites in Delaware. On weekends, he’s usually outside hiking around state parks or National Park Service sites. After a long hike, a visit to a craft brewery is a refreshing reward. For longer trips, Tim continues to cruise, occasionally with **Christopher Griffin** and **Sarah Brackbill ‘09**. Sailing out of Seattle and up to Alaska in May 2025 meant that Tim could check off two additional states from his goal to visit all 50.

We are still looking for a class reporter for the Class of 2008, so please reach out if you are interested in hearing more about this rewarding and important way to volunteer for your alma mater!

The Alumni Engagement Team  
alumni@mcDaniel.edu  
410-857-2296

2014

**Monica Parcell Filips** and her husband, Steven, welcomed their son, Lochlan, on Sept. 13, 2025. “He is such a joy and loved by his big sister, Elsea!” they say. Monica is a pelvic floor physical therapist with a specialization in

pregnancy and postpartum exercise. She works at Restore Physical Therapy and Pelvic Health in Ardmore, Pennsylvania.

**Kathryn “Kat” Dales**, now **Kate Sachse**, has been working as a staff attorney for MidPenn Legal Services since completing law school and passing the bar exam in 2017. She has worked at their Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office since 2019. She married Adam Sachse in 2022, and their daughter, Emma, was born in September 2024. Kate loves to spend time at home with her husband and their four shared children.

Since August 2024, **BreAnna Strevig** has decided to take her pet-sitting business full swing. She was featured on the cover of Pet Sitters World magazine for the 2025 fall/winter issue and has been using some of her social work skills to help focus her business on the anxieties of the pets and the pet parents. She currently resides in Florida and has been loving her time there.

**Joe Odierno** and **Colette Kellen Odierno ‘16** were blessed with the birth of their daughter Amelia Odierno on April 25, 2025.

As for me, I’m in my eighth year with PepsiCo and was recently promoted to their sports and entertainment team, where I focus on major league sports marketing for the Northeast. **Mark Bell** and I purchased our first home together in Annapolis, Maryland, in June 2025 and we’re fortunate to live close to my mom, **Carol James ‘79**, and many Phi Sig and Phi Delt friends. Hope to see everyone around the Hill soon!

Lauren Avery  
2014 Class Reporter  
laurenavery17@gmail.com

2020

**Jade Enright** and **Cooper Hostetler** married on Aug. 10, 2024. Jade defended her thesis on April 8, 2026, earning her Ph.D. in Molecular Cell Biology from Washington University in St. Louis.

**Neal Rinker** has been working as a data engineer at Harbor Freight Tools, where he helps build and maintain data systems that support business insights and decision-making. He owns his home in New Oxford, Pennsylvania, living with his fiancée and their dog and cat. Outside of work, he has enjoyed traveling to Portugal and Spain, visiting Hawaii and the Grand Canyon, and skiing in Colorado, Utah, and Vermont.

**Kelly Novak** got engaged to **Dalton Reim ‘19** on Feb. 2, 2025, while vacationing in Costa Rica. She works remotely out of their home in Atlanta as a meteorology analyst at Geronimo Power, helping to optimize the performance of the company’s operational solar projects. This past year, she became a proud aunt and godmother.

Kelly Novak  
2020 Class Reporter  
kellyanovak24@gmail.com



**WILLIAM BOWER '95, PE, PLS,** is a senior project manager at BayLand Consultants and Designers Inc., a full-service engineering and environmental firm providing ecological restoration and development of essential infrastructure projects.

# OPENING DOORS AND ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH THE ALUMNI NETWORK

BY WILLIAM BOWER '95

My journey to the Hill started with football, having been recruited by Coach Dale Sprague in the fall of 1990. The next year, I found myself anchoring the offensive line as the starting center for the Green Terror. My first year culminated in the spring of 1992 with an unforgettable experience: traveling to Moscow to play against the Russian National Team. It was an extraordinary freshman year for someone who had arrived from high school without a defined trajectory or a clear vision for the future.

Initially, I enrolled at McDaniel (formerly Western Maryland College) as a Mathematics major, drawn to the structured logic of numbers. However, during my sophomore year, a desire to develop stronger communication and interpersonal dynamics prompted me to pivot and change my major to Communication. While the academic rigor of both departments provided essential analytical and expressive tools, it was the vibrant campus community that forged my lifelong foundation. The deep bonds formed during long, grueling practices on the gridiron and within the tight-knit brotherhood of the Gamma Beta Chi fraternity have endured for decades, serving as a constant reminder of the support system that defined my college years.

After graduation, my career path took an unconventional trajectory through the fields of construction and land surveying. Interestingly, this professional journey began leveraging my early mathematical training far more intensively than my Communication degree. This unexpected alignment of disciplines fueled my growth, eventually driving me to secure dual professional licensure as both a land surveyor and a civil engineer, with a specialized focus on water resources and environmental engineering.

Today, I reside in Annapolis and dedicate my daily professional efforts to environmental mapping and restoration initiatives within the fragile ecosystem of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. I also serve on the Board of Directors for the Maryland Society of Surveyors as the chair of the Government Affairs committee.

In this capacity, I occasionally testify at House and Senate subcommittee hearings, advocating for legislative measures that directly impact the surveying and engineering professions, utilizing my communications skills learned on the Hill.

The diverse, well-rounded liberal arts education I received at Western Maryland College is precisely what empowered me to remain adaptable to the complex demands of the professional world. Balancing the sophisticated mathematical modeling required for environmental engineering alongside the communication skills needed for public relations and legislative testimony is a direct reflection of the dual training I received at McDaniel.

Currently, I serve as a senior project manager at BayLand Consultants and Designers Inc., leading our land survey team and directing civil engineering projects. In a rewarding validation of our enduring alumni network, we recently welcomed Zoe Philip '26 to our Marine Design Team as an environmental scientist. Zoe, who earned their B.A. in Environmental Studies, connected with me through a mutual acquaintance, and it was a privilege to assist them through the application and onboarding process.

This professional full-circle moment mirrors my own recent returns to campus. Speaking to Dr. Elly Engle and Meg Christie's Environmental Studies classes regarding Chesapeake Bay restoration regulations allowed me to give back to the next generation. It stands as a powerful reminder that the connections built on the Hill continue to open doors and enrich lives long after graduation.

**INTERESTED IN WRITING ABOUT HOW THE HILL INFLUENCED YOUR LIFE BEYOND GRADUATION?**

Email [ocm@mcdaniel.edu](mailto:ocm@mcdaniel.edu) with your column idea!

# WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TRADITION ON THE HILL



We highlighted a variety of campus traditions through the generations in this issue of The Hill, but we know we missed some others that may be little-known and well-loved.



Regardless of whether you already read about it in the preceding pages, we want to know what your favorite campus tradition is!

- Write in with:
- Your name and graduation year
  - Your most beloved tradition from your time on the Hill

Feel free to share the background of the tradition and why you loved it so much. We may even publish some responses in the next issue!

**Prize:** Everyone who submits will be entered into a drawing for McDaniel College swag!

**Submit:** Please send submissions via email to [ocm@mcdaniel.edu](mailto:ocm@mcdaniel.edu) with "Campus Traditions" as the subject line or via mail to:

McDaniel College  
The Hill magazine  
2 College Hill  
Westminster, MD 21157

**Deadline:** Friday, Oct. 30, 2026

# McDANIEL COLLEGE

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Westminster, MD 21157-4390

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**“Community forms the links that survive  
over time between people. It’s not just the  
relationships you have now, but the ongoing sense  
that you are part of something that extends beyond  
you, lasts beyond you, and to which you remain  
connected, even if you physically leave.”**

**— Provost Caroline Sherman**

*Read more about Provost Sherman's philosophies  
on community and academics on page 22.*