

Notre Dame High School  
St. Mary's Grade School  
127 East Pike St.  
Clarksburg, WV 26301

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# Notre Dame & St. Mary's



Education in Faith, Knowledge, & Service

February 2018

## Carroll Morrison Named 2017 Educator of the Year

Notre Dame Principal, Dr. Carroll Morrison, has been named educator of the year by North Central West Virginia Media. Morrison said, "It is a humbling experience and I was very surprised. The newspaper informed me that I was the first private school educator to win the award." Morrison initially worked at Notre Dame in the early 1980s as a mathematics teacher, counselor, and the coach of two state champion cheerleading teams before returning as the Principal in 1998. She was awarded the Bishop's Cross in 2016 by

Bishop Michael Bransfield which is the highest honor in West Virginia Catholic Education. Morrison lives in Bridgeport with her husband David and has three children who all graduated from Notre Dame: Elizabeth Grey '05, Kelly '06, and Chad '15. She said, "I loved having my own children in the school, even if they didn't like having their Mom as Principal. I have loved being at Notre Dame and consider all of the students my family. I care for every single one of them like they are my own children."



Watch school events live & on demand. Go to [notredamewv.org](http://notredamewv.org) and click on the ION Link



### ND & St. Mary's Fund Campaign Update

The 2017-2018 Notre Dame & St. Mary's Fund campaign "Do Great Things" has received gifts of just over \$83,000. The goal is \$175,000 and the campaign ends on June 30. The Notre Dame & St. Mary's Fund benefits academic/extra-curricular programs and building maintenance. It is the fundraising priority for the schools and is crucial in balancing and supplementing the operating budgets. Gifts can be made to



online at [notredamewv.org](http://notredamewv.org) or by mail using the enclosed envelope. Thank you everyone who has contributed.

### Preschooler Donates Prize to St. Mary's



Addie Enocksen recently found a painted rock from Wilson Martino Dental and donated her prize money to St. Mary's. She is pictured presenting her check to Principal Nicole Folio.

### 2017 State Championship Basketball Banner Unveiled



The 2017 State Single A basketball championship coaches and team members reunited on January 17 before a game against Parkersburg Catholic at the Notre Dame Gymnasium for a banner unveiling ceremony. Members of the coaching staff and players were introduced by Principal Carroll Morrison and the new banner was unveiled to the public. The team won twenty three games during the regular season before going on to beat St. Joes, Wheeling Central, and Ravenswood at the State tournament in Charleston.



### In Loving Memory of Two Special Educators



Mary Ann Tiano  
(1938-2018)



Lucie Romano  
(1928-2018)

Your invitation to the  
Irish Legends Gala  
is enclosed within this newsletter.  
Saturday, March 24.  
Please save the date.



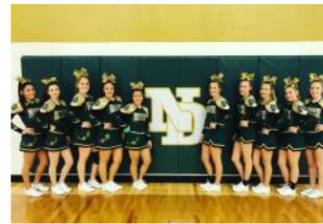
Notre Dame High School  
St. Mary's Grade School  
Advancement Office  
127 East Pike Street  
Clarksburg, WV 26301  
304-623-1026  
[www.notredamewv.org](http://www.notredamewv.org)  
[www.stmaryswv.org](http://www.stmaryswv.org)



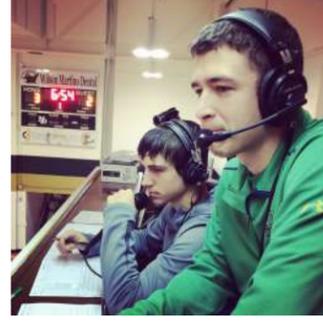
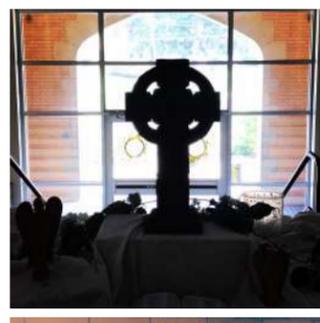
# Instagram proving to be popular



During a discussion about how to improve Notre Dame High School's overall social media reach, Victoria Simon, a 2012 graduate, told advancement director, Ian McAra, "You have to get Instagram." Simon immediately set up the popular photo sharing app for Notre Dame and a few days later an account was implemented for St. Mary's. McAra said, "I was missing a communications tool for young parents, recent graduates, and current students. They weren't necessarily reading print newsletters, and while many of them had Facebook accounts, they were not using them with anywhere near the frequency of Instagram. Incorporating Instagram into our communications has allowed us to quickly tell a story in pictures which is the way young people are consuming more information." Follow the schools on Instagram by searching **notredamewv** for NDHS and **stmaryswv** for St. Mary's Grade School.



Follow us on Instagram



# Alumni Spotlight: Where Are They Now?

Ian Hernly '07



After graduating from Notre Dame, Ian attended Marietta College then transferred to West Virginia University. He graduated in 2011 with a degree in Chemistry and returned to Clarksburg where he worked for almost a year. In 2012, Ian joined the United States Navy and graduated from Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island as a Student Naval Aviator. He spent two years in the Navy living and working in Pensacola, Florida until he was honorably discharged. Ian returned to Clarksburg and was contracted by the Department of Defense as a Biometrics Analyst for the Army. Ian recently moved to Quantico, Virginia to further his career for the DoD as an Intelligence Analyst for the Department of the Navy.

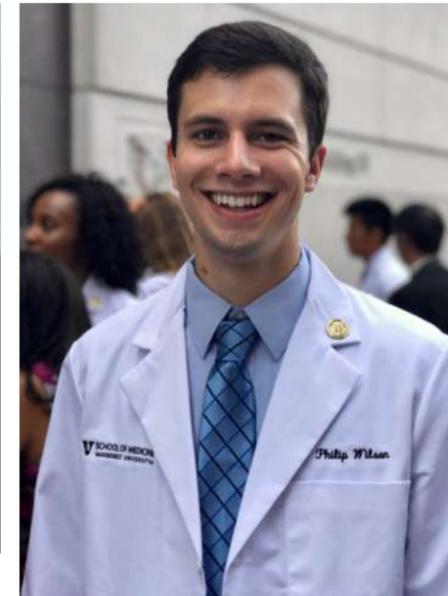
## Where Are You Now??

We are always trying to stay in contact with our alumni. Let us know what you are up to. Include your Notre Dame graduating year, a brief bio, and a picture and email to [imcara@notredamewv.org](mailto:imcara@notredamewv.org).

## Follow Us On Social Media



Philip Wilson '13



Philip Wilson is currently a first-year student at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, TN, where he received a Cornelius Vanderbilt Scholarship. In 2017, he graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a B.S. in biological sciences and a supplemental major in international peace studies. As an undergraduate, he researched malarial genomics in the lab of Dr. Michael Ferdig, spent summers in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, teaching English in after-school/college settings, and in Philadelphia, worked with Project HOME, a supportive housing organization working to end chronic homelessness.

Kim Shaffer Karakiozis '91

Kim Shaffer Karakiozis graduated as Salutatorian from Notre Dame before attending Wheeling Jesuit University. She graduated in 1995 with a B.S. in Accounting and, immediately after college, began working for the Harrison County Sheriff's Tax Office where she served as Chief Tax Deputy for just over 19 years. Kim is currently the Director of Finance for the City of Clarksburg. A position she has held since April 2016. She resides in Clarksburg with husband, John Karakiozis and son, Johnny, age 11 - in 5th grade at St. Mary's and daughter, Audrey, age 6 - in Kindergarten at St. Mary's

Christina Kast Maier '04



Christina Kast Maier graduated with a B.S. in Journalism, specializing in Broadcast News and minoring in Communications. She then attended the University of Charleston earning an M.B.A. She held several positions including Marketing and Communications Manager at West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, and Associate Director of Admissions at West Virginia State University. She is currently the Program Coordinator of Recruitment for West Virginia University. In this position she travels within her market and teaches students the importance of higher education and the opportunities at WVU. Maier recruits in the southwestern part of WV and has been with WVU for 6 years. She met her husband, Jimmy Maier, while living in Morgantown and married in 2014. They have an amazing daughter, Adeline, who is almost 2, and are currently waiting on the arrival of their 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter due in July.



## Palmer, Mullens, & Ritter Named EQT Students of Excellence



**Christian Palmer**



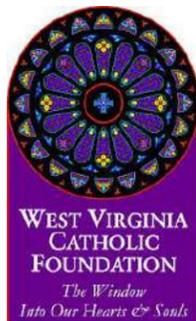
**Hunter Mullens**



**Jeremiah Ritter**

Christian Palmer, Hunter Mullens, and Jeremiah Ritter have all been named EQT students of excellence. EQT offer \$1,000 scholarships to a student in each WV county, five \$1,000 at-large scholarships scattered throughout the State, and six full scholarships up to \$18,000 per year. Christian Palmer received an at-large scholarship and plans to attend college focusing on a course of study that helps him attain a degree in film studies and English. Hunter Mullens received the scholarship for Barbour County and wants to major in biology so he can go on to succeed in medical school. Jeremiah Ritter received the scholarship for Harrison County and plans to attend West Virginia University to become a civil engineer.

## Monsignor John J. O'Brien Planned Giving Society



Membership to the Monsignor John J. O'Brien Planned Giving Society goes to those who have made Notre Dame & St. Mary's a beneficiary in their estate plans. Annual giving campaigns are improving, and they are helping the schools make improvements and meet their budgetary needs. Planned gifts will secure the financial future of Notre Dame & St.

Mary's. Planned gifts can be placed in the Harrison County Catholic Schools Endowment fund and benefit the schools year after year. Monsignor O'Brien was instrumental in the planning and building of Notre Dame High School. To discuss leaving your legacy with a planned gift contact Ian McAra at 304-623-1026 or [imcara@notredamewv.org](mailto:imcara@notredamewv.org).



**40th** - The class of 1978 is planning a class reunion for graduates of 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1981. The reunion will be held on Saturday, July 21 at Via Veneto in Bridgeport. A social hour from 6-7 will be followed by a dinner and program from 7-9. A dance with cash bar will follow from 9-midnight. Cost is \$65 per person. Reservations with payment are requested by May 1st and should be sent to Rosemary Trupo, 157 Village Drive, Bridgeport, WV 26330. Graduates from 1978-1981 wanting to help plan the event should call or text Rose at 304-669-0783 or Sheila Marra at 304-940-0242. Sheila can also be messaged via Facebook.

## Class Reunion News

For assistance finding the contact information of classmates for your reunion please get in touch with advancement director Ian McAra at 304-623-1026 or [imcara@notredamewv.org](mailto:imcara@notredamewv.org)

**50th** - The class of 1968 is planning a reunion for July 28 which will be held at the Bridgeport Conference Center. Contact Angela Grisso at 304-641-0768 or [agrisso@ma.rr.com](mailto:agrisso@ma.rr.com) or Cabrini Skasik at 304-669-1105. More information will also be sent to classmates soon.

Thank you to the class of 1967 who made a donation to the school from their 50th reunion celebration. Pictured making the presentation to Principal Carroll Morrison are 1967 grads Larry Policano and Leon Pilewski.



## Trey Simmerman to Receive 2018 Distinguished Young Alumnus Award



Frank E. "Trey" Simmerman III has been named the 2018 distinguished young alumnus. He will receive the award at the Irish Legends Gala.

Trey attended St. Mary's Grade School and graduated from Notre Dame High School in 2004. Trey is the son of Frank E. Simmerman, Jr. and Jane D. Simmerman. During his tenure at Notre Dame

he was the school's first recipient of the Frank Loria Award – an annual award given to Harrison County's top football player – as well as the class salutatorian. After graduation, Trey attended the College of Wooster, located in Wooster, Ohio, where he continued his athletic career as a three-year letter winner for the Fighting Scots on the gridiron. While at the College of Wooster Trey

was a member of a select group of Wooster student-athletes who volunteered at Every Woman's House - a shelter providing comprehensive services to the victims of domestic violence. Trey graduated from the College of Wooster in 2008 with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Philosophy with a focus in Classical Studies. After college, Trey continued his studies at the West Virginia University College of Law,

where he obtained his juris doctorate degree in 2011. Currently, Trey is enrolled in Florida State University's Masters of Science in Risk Management and Insurance (MS-RMI) program, with an anticipated graduation date in 2018. Trey is also currently the President of the ARC of Harrison County, West Virginia. Trey practices law on Main Street in Clarksburg with his father, Frank E. Simmerman, Jr., and Chad L. Taylor, at Simmerman Law Office, PLLC, focusing in the areas of oil and gas litigation, insurance litigation, personal injury litigation, and public-sector work – including representing various municipalities throughout North Central West Virginia. Trey is married to Dr. Miranda King Simmerman, and they currently reside in Bridgeport with their Rhodesian Ridgeback Remy. Trey is honored to be the recipient of this years Distinguished Young Alumnus Award and would like to dedicate the award to the late Mary Ann Roda Tiano, as well as the other educators who positively impacted both his, and his Notre Dame classmates, lives.

## Irish Gazette Off to a Great Start

The Irish Gazette, a student run newspaper, was launched at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. The venture was brought to life by Julia Manley, a senior at the school, who is interested in a career in the journalism field. Manley approached Principal Carroll Morrison and asked if she could start a school newspaper. Manley presented Dr. Morrison with an example of what the newspaper would look like and a class was implemented. Five students enrolled in the class and the Irish Gazette was formed. Nick Farrell, who was already teaching the broadcast journalism class, agreed to be the advisor. The five students generate story ideas and then assignments are given covering school news, sports, and special features. The students have now released several editions of the newspaper which is distributed through the school's website. Manley said, "I was excited about being part of



starting the project and that news would be released from a student point of view." The newspaper can be viewed by clicking the Irish Gazette link at [notredamewv.org](http://notredamewv.org).

Pictured are the Irish Gazette writers. From left to right: Erin Turner, Julia Manley, Clare Cistaro, Maya Dalton, and Serena Sestito.

## 2018 Irish Legends Gala Honorees



**The 2017 Irish Legends and Distinguished Young Alumni**

The 2018 Irish Legends Gala will be held at Via Veneto in Bridgeport on Saturday, March 24. The event is Notre Dame & St. Mary's.

Mary's version of a hall of fame and honorees are chosen for significant contribution to the school and/or community and/or outstanding achievement. The event started in 2004 and has honored many deserving individuals. It has helped build many great relationships with school constituents and raised a significant amount of money which benefits both Notre Dame & St. Mary's. This year's honorees are Jill Oliverio Florio, Cookie & Toni Cann Bonasso, Sarah Julian Schneider, Sondra Granett Colombo, and Irene Keeley. The 2018 distinguished young alumnus award winner is Trey Simmerman. Congratulations to all the honorees.

### The 2018 Irish Legends Gala

**Honoring:**  
**Jill Oliverio Florio**  
**Cookie & Toni Cann Bonasso**  
**Sarah Julian Schneider**  
**Sondra Granett Colombo**  
**Irene Keeley**

**Distinguished Young Alumnus Award**  
**Trey Simmerman**

**Saturday, March 24**  
**Via Veneto**

**Sponsorship/Reservation info at**  
**[www.notredamewv.org](http://www.notredamewv.org)**

### Jill Oliverio Florio '80



Jill Oliverio Florio resides in Bridgeport with her husband Mike and their son Alex. "Irish blood" runs deep in Jill's family. Her Father, Joseph E. Oliverio, Jr., a 2007 Irish Legend, graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1955 and her Mother, Jeanne Peasak Oliverio, graduated from Notre Dame in 1957 as the Salutatorian of her class. Not only did Jill's siblings -Becky, Joey, and Michael- graduate from Notre Dame, all of her maternal and paternal aunts and uncles did as well. Jill

and Mike's son Alex graduated from Notre Dame in 2015. Some of Jill's most memorable moments at Notre Dame include serving as head cheerleader and being selected as the Homecoming Queen. She also was the Valedictorian of her graduating class. Jill graduated *summa cum laude* from Fairmont State College before attending the WVU College of Law where she was selected to the *West Virginia Law Review*. She graduated second in her law school class of 1990 and consequently was inducted into the *Order of the Coif*. Additionally, she was awarded the Patrick Duffy Koontz award for leadership, scholarship, and academic achievement. Upon graduating from law school, Jill joined the law firm of Eckert Seamans, Cherin & Mellott in Pittsburgh where she

was a member of the PA State Bar Association. In 1993, she returned to the area and joined Steptoe & Johnson where she focused her practice in the area of labor and employment law as a member of the WV and Harrison County Bar Associations. Jill served on the Board of Directors for United Summit Center for several years. She was also a member of the Board of Directors for the United Health Foundation as well as a member of its community liaison committee. She is a former member of the Harrison County Catholic Schools Mission Advancement Committee and the Leadership Committee for the Harrison County United Way. Jill is a former member of Immaculate Conception Church where she served as a cantor and a current member of All Saints.

### Cookie & Toni Cann Bonasso '72 & '73



Toni is the daughter of Carmine Cann, Sr. (St. Mary's Class of 1948) and the late Florence Chico Cann. She is one of seven siblings who graduated from Notre Dame. All

seven siblings graduated from WVU following in the footsteps of her father (WVU Law School 1954). She graduated from WVU School of Nursing (1977) and has been working for Ohio Health Hospi-

tal System on a contingent basis for the last 29 years. In the community, Toni is a member of St. Ann's Women's Auxiliary Council, a longtime volunteer for both the Dublin Irish Festival and the Columbus Association for the Advancement of the Performing Arts (CAPA). Louis, everybody calls him Cookie, attended Fairmont State College and found his professional calling in the Oil & Gas Industry. Starting as a Landman and working his way into purchasing and marketing of natural gas and oil predominantly in the Appalachian Basin for the better part of 35 years ending in 2014. Cookie was known for his

ability to create "win win" situations for the clients he worked with. He is a Charter Member and Past Grand Knight of K of C Council 10863. Toni and Cookie have resided in Dublin, OH (a suburb of Columbus) since 1988. They are the parents of three children (Louis Jr., Florence Barnes and Annette Madsen). They are the proud grandparents of four grandchildren. They are parishioners of St. Brigid of Kildare Church where Toni volunteers for various committees including the Social Action Committee, Meals on Wheels and Holy Casseroles. They are honored to be chosen as Irish Legends.

### Sarah Julian Schneider '63

Sarah Julian Schneider of Pittsburgh has been married to Charles J. Schneider III for 48 years. They have two children Jeffrey and Jeanne Elder, both teachers, and six grandchildren. Sarah is the daughter of the late John D. Julian, a Clarksburg CPA, and the late Theresa Cavallaro Julian Morini. She has one sister the late Kathleen Julian Mulholland '65. Sarah attended St. Mary's and Notre Dame graduating as class valedictorian. She studied journalism at Duquesne University where she was editor-in-chief of the Duquesne DUKE. Her first job was as public relations director at St. Margaret Hospital in Pittsburgh. Her professional life included public relations for two school districts, a local township, and the Pittsburgh Sisters of Mercy.

As president of Women in Communications, Inc.-Pittsburgh, Sarah and a colleague started Wordcrafters, Inc. She later took over the company doing both PR and corporate training. In 1990 son Jeff asked her to join him on their parish's work camp trip to Kentucky to repair homes. The next year husband Charlie and daughter Jeanne joined the crew. Citing her organizational skills, her pastor asked her to develop a community outreach coordinator position. For 16+ years, she led summer work camps in Preston County, WV as well as groups to work with Habitat for Humanity in three Pennsylvania counties. She coordinated outreach to an international relief agency, food banks, shelters, and other organizations serving the poor.

When she retired in 2007, Sarah began taking volunteers to work on recovery after Hurricane Katrina, an Alabama tornado, and Hurricane Sandy. She and her husband have been middle school mentors in a Pittsburgh Public School. They continue as homeowner care visitors with the Pittsburgh Project. Sarah writes life histories of residents at the Vincentian Home. She is an Eucharistic Minister at St. John Neumann and organizes volunteers for the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.



### Sondra Granett Colombo '59

Sondra Granett Colombo graduated from Notre Dame High School and holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a minor in English from the University of Mount St. Joseph in Cincinnati, Ohio. She has been an educator for many years, including nine at the United Technical Center teaching G.E.D. classes to young adults in the tri-county area, and over twenty five in the Catholic school system. While at St. Mary's her sixth graders won the WV State class social studies fair three years in a row. Sondra

also tutored at the Clarksburg Housing Authority After-School Program at Laurel Lanes. In 2016, she received the Marshall University Excellence in Education Award. She currently teaches English and reading at Notre Dame High School. While her children were young, Sondra served as a board member for the Clarksburg League for Service. She is the daughter of the late B.G. and Angeline Granett. She has a brother Sam Granett who graduated from Notre Dame and his wife, Barbara, and a sister, the late Kath-

ryn Bebe Gonsorcik Duke. She is married to Rudolph Colombo and has two children, Rudy Colombo (Beverly) and Dr. Amy Colombo who both graduated from Notre Dame. She has four grandchildren - B.G., Annie, Ella, and Mary Quinn.



### Irene Keeley (Honorary)

United States District Judge Irene M. Keeley of Clarksburg, WV, was born in Brooklyn, NY, and, together with her parents and four siblings, moved to the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C., where her father was an attorney in the Department of Justice. She received her undergraduate degree from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland in Baltimore, MD, in 1965, and a Masters Degree from WVU in 1979. Before attending law school, she was a secondary education teacher in Harrison County. She received her Juris Doctorate degree from the WVU College of Law in 1980, where she was an Associate Editor of the West Virginia Law Review and a member of the Moot Court Board. She and her husband Jack live in Clarks-

burg, where they raised three daughters, Reenie, Kate and Meaghan. They are the proud grandparents of two granddaughters and two grandsons. From 1980-1992, she practiced law with Steptoe & Johnson in the areas of litigation and health care. She was appointed as Judge of the United States District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia by President George H. W. Bush on August 12, 1992. She served as Chief Judge of the Northern District from March 2001 to March 2008. Judge Keeley is a member of the American Bar Association, WV State Bar, and the WV Bar Association. She is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a past chair of the ABA National Confer-

ence of Federal Trial Judges. From 2005 to 2007, she served as President of the Federal Judges Association. Later, she served as Chair of the Committee on Criminal Law of the Judicial Conference of the United States from 2013 to 2016. Currently, she is a member of the Budget Committee of the Judicial Conference. She is a former Chair of the Board of Advisors of WVU. In 2003, she was honored with the Order of Vandalia from WVU, and in 2005 she received the Justitia Officium Award from the WVU College of Law.

