ONE WAY OUT

AS THE TALIBAN THREATENED, THE MARQUETTE COMMUNITY RALLIED TO OFFER A FRIEND AND HIS FAMILY REFUGE. BUT FIRST, THEY NEEDED TO ESCAPE.
As a Catholic theologian, I can say that the value of our human life ... is not in what we do but in who we are, and it is easier to see that when we slow down.

DR. CONOR KELLY, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY AND AUTHOR OF THE FULLNESS OF FREE TIME: A THEOLOGICAL ACCOUNT OF LEISURE AND RECREATION IN THE MORAL LIFE.
LEADING EDGE

President Michael R. Lovell and Lora Strigens, vice president for planning and facilities management, tour the fast-rising home of Marquette Business, Dr. E.J. and Margaret O’Brien Hall. It will offer prime views of West Town Square and two just-announced campus projects (see pages 7 and 12).

FINDING BALANCE

As president of the logrolling club, one of the newest club sports on campus, junior Tess Stumvoll tells new members like sophomore Jenna Kozal (right) to never get frustrated and always keep their feet moving.

A BRONZE AND A FIRST

Speedskater Emery Lehman, Eng ’20, became Marquette’s first Winter Olympics medalist, earning a bronze in team pursuit in Beijing. He’s competed in two other Olympics, including Pyeongchang, South Korea, in 2018 (below). He joins Summer Games medalists such as Ralph Metcalfe, Arts ’36, and Jimmy Butler, Comm ’11.

ALIVE WITH THE SPIRIT AGAIN

After a months-long renovation, hundreds came to worship and celebrate the return of Tuesday Night Mass to Marquette’s beloved — and refurbished — St. Joan of Arc Chapel.

PORTRAITS IN INFLUENCE

After retiring as distinguished professor of education, Dr. Howard Fuller (left), Grad ’85, participated in Paying it Forward, sharing lessons from decades of leadership in civil rights and education. Conversation partner Mike Gousha has also retired as distinguished fellow in law and public policy at the Law School, where he moderated statewide debates, hosted key civic conversations and helped establish the Lubar Center as a valued regional resource. Gousha continues as senior adviser.
Time to Rise marks our boldest philanthropic campaign to date, and the Marquette family is stepping up. For our students, faculty and beyond. Join us at timetorise.marquette.edu.

We are Marquette. And it’s time to rise.

T he Ignatian value of magis teaches us to do more for the greater glory of God. I am continually impressed by the ways in which our campus community and alumni adopt this value in using their talents to make the world better. Some of my favorite days of the year are when we welcome back our former students whose sound ethics and steadfast commitment to service have greatly impacted or advanced their fields of study and practice.

We celebrate them during Marquette’s Alumni National Awards. By sharing their gifts and expertise, these alumni transform our world in remarkable ways. From developing innovative medical technologies to breaking barriers of race and gender, they demonstrate magis. In doing so, they call us all to reconsider what magis means in our own lives.

Their example raises the bar for everyone in our community and inspires us to do more. Over the last seven years, and especially as we launched our current Time to Rise campaign, I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our alumni and friends to enable Marquette to do more in providing a transformational experience for our students. A recent gift from alumnus Marcus Lemonis exemplifies these values; his investment will launch a student success center that will impact every student on our campus.

This game-changing gift will bolster individualized support for our students in all aspects of their lives, enabling them to experience cura personalis — care for the whole person — while seeking the magis in their own ways. Like so many of our alumni who invest in our students’ futures, Marcus is helping us do more in shaping future changemakers who are open to the possibilities of where God is calling them.

Our alumni stories, from their triumphs to their generosity and drive, reflect the Ignatian tradition at the heart of a Marquette education. We are anchored in our commitment to form leaders rooted in Ignatian values who will change the world; the support of those alumni who embody the magis and push for greater access, in turn, broadens horizons in every corner of our campus.

Moving forward, we must continue to strive for new ways to improve the student experience and achieve an equitable and just community by removing barriers. As was our theme for this year’s Mission Week, we must remain Open to Possibility — just like our alumni.

Dr. Michael R. Lovell
PRESIDENT

Fans at Fiserv Forum on National Marquette Day thank Marcus Lemonis, Arts ’95, for his game-changing gift in support of student success.

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With a boost from a vibrant new center, Marquette aims for long-term success by supporting students from the start.

BY GUY FIORITA

In predicting who successfully navigates college—and who falters—the first nine weeks on campus are crucial. To help undergraduates establish firm footings, Marquette’s year-old Student Success Initiative reaches students early with tailored resources and in-person navigators who answer questions and make timely referrals.

As a navigator in the program’s pilot, Brian Troyer, dean of undergraduate admissions, was assigned 10 first-year students last fall, all of them commuters. In their early meetings with him, students often focused on typical issues such as changing a major. “But over time,” Troyer says, “their biggest needs were for socialization and engagement with the Marquette community. The program helps students connect with each other and get a sense of the opportunities that exist at Marquette.”

Samantha Arellano, a member of his cohort, had the usual new-student concerns, plus issues finding transportation, missing evening activities and squeezing in library visits. “I felt overwhelmed and not very welcome,” she relates. She was in danger of dropping out, but meetings with Troyer changed all that. “I had someone to talk to, to encourage me to try new things and introduce me to other commuter students.”

Now, she has campus jobs as a tour guide and community ambassador, and has explored starting a sorority. “My biggest goal is making an impact at Marquette,” she says.

Marquette is ready to build on the pilot’s success—in a big way. A $15 million gift from Marcus Lemonis, Arts ’95, star of CNBC’s The Profit and CEO of Camping World, and his wife, Bobbi, will transform the Wisconsin Avenue-frontage of Memorial Library into the Lemonis Center for Student Success, giving students a welcoming resource hub from arrival through graduation. Says Dr. John Su, vice provost for academic affairs and student success, “We want every student to feel they have a champion on campus as they develop their sense of agency and self-efficacy starting in their first semester.”

FOR TWO DECADES—through the leadership of Justice Janine Geske, Law ’75, Hon Deg ’98, distinguished professor of law—Marquette Law School has supported innovative restorative justice initiatives that connect victims with offenders to encourage accountability and heal pain. Now, a $5 million gift from Louis, Law ’66, and Suzanne (Bouquet) Andrew, Sp ’66, advances these efforts by establishing the Andrew Center for Restorative Justice to educate students, support research and enhance teaching. Geske, a former justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, will work as the center’s inaugural director and lead the search for a permanent one. Restorative justice is a “powerful, peaceful means for addressing conflict,” she says, calling establishing this program at Marquette her “dream.”
Virtual Care Accelerator, launched the Telehealth Virtual Care Accelerator, supported by a $1.5 million grant from a private foundation. Director and principal investigator Patricia Schroeder, Nurs ’75, Grad ’78, ’97, research lead Dr. Stacey Lerret, Grad ’02, ’11, and partners — guided by an advisory board of Marquette-based and national experts — are developing educational programs, research efforts and nursing approaches offering students a “clear and contemporary perspective” of digital care rooted in Jesuit values, Schroeder says.

Reaching High

BY STEPHEN FILMANOWICZ

Marquette’s largest-ever award for water research will promote healthier environments for troops and civilians.

BY STEPHEN FILMANOWICZ

Recently, this collaboration helped Marquette receive its largest federal award to date for water-related research — $3.8 million from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fund an ambitious program, Novel Technologies to Mitigate Water Contamination for Resilient Infrastructure, which researchers have given the memorable name in Defense of Water.

Led by Dr. Daniel Zitomer, chair and professor of civil, construction and environmental engineering, eight faculty members from diverse fields are working in four teams, collaborating with researchers from two laboratories of the Army’s Engineer Research and Development Center. Dr. Martin Page, who leads a water treatment and reuse technology research team at ERDC, says the project is leveraging “knowledge and skills across institutions to address important technical questions relating to water resilience.” It will help the Army promote sustainability, resilience and health on and around military sites — and yield public health benefits as well.

Project highlights include:

• A team led by Dr. Brooke Mayer, associate professor of civil, construction and environmental engineering, is advancing a mobile wastewater recovery system designed to play a key role in deserts and other locales where clean water and/or sewerage resources are or will be insufficient, requiring water to otherwise be trucked in and out.

• Dr. Krassimira Hristova, associate professor of biological sciences, leads a team addressing increased disinfected use in buildings and the rise of illness-causing pathogens that are resistant to antibiotics or antibiotics. Examining what is killed by typical disinfectants and what comes back after their use, the team will also study alternatives that control bacteria and virus growth with “less disruption of existing indoor microbial communities, the diversity of which helps keep pathogens in check without contributing to antimicrobial resistance,” Hristova says.

• Used in food packaging and firefighting foam, PFAS chemicals are accumulating in soil and water, the rise of antibiotic- and antiseptic-resistant pathogens, and the need to recycle wastewater in locations with limited water and sewer resources — are the subject of intense research interest. These topics arise regularly when faculty members from across campus meet to discuss their water research expertise, projects and aspirations, something that’s happened monthly over the past five years as part of Marquette’s participation in Milwaukee’s Global Water Center.

A veteran helps and heals

BY TRACY STAETER

After serving in combat in the Vietnam War for a year and then working in Iraq for decades, Tom Crowley, Arts ’71, left his corporate life for volunteerism. In 1998, he began devoting time to Mercy Centre in Bangkok, Thailand, a Catholic foundation started by Rev. Joe Maier and Sister Maria Chantavorn to support impoverished children. Like Crowley, many of the children suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, in their cases from abuse and neglect. While navigating difficult situations with them, Crowley would experience flashbacks to painful memories of the battlefield. His wartime trauma, including survivor’s guilt, helped him bond with the children, he believes.

Crowley, an author and previous winner of a bronze medal award from the Military Writers Society of America, traces this healing arc in his newest book, Mercy’s Heroes (Koehler Books, 2021). It juxtaposes shimmering tales of the courage and resilience of children living in poverty with heartbreaking stories from the battlefield. Working with the children and the center’s staff taught Crowley “to give the pain to the angels to carry. That doesn’t erase the memories, but it helps to manage them.”

Remote learning: The new world of care delivery, is here to stay. To prepare Many health care providers are developing educational and national experts — partners — guided by an advisory board of Marquette-based and national experts — and students a “clear and contemporary perspective” of digital care rooted in Jesuit values, Schroeder says.

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Telehealth

BY STEPHEN FILMANOWICZ

The changes in care delivery and patient satisfaction stemming from the pandemic. Now, telehealth is here to stay. To prepare Many health care providers are developing educational and national experts — partners — guided by an advisory board of Marquette-based and national experts — and students a “clear and contemporary perspective” of digital care rooted in Jesuit values, Schroeder says.
LAW WITH A SIDE OF DANISH. Arriving in Copenhages for a semester abroad, Nicholas Bergosh was impressed. “The city and people were so beautiful; I felt like I was on a Vogue photo shoot.” He quickly adapted to learning law in a foreign land. “They teach many of the same concepts. My textbook was written by American law professors and rarely mentioned cases outside the U.S.” To serve law students who want both foreign study and on-time degrees, Marquette has developed relationships with three foreign law schools. “You have to plan ahead,” Bergosh says. “Find out what courses you need to graduate and when they’re offered. From there, it’s all scheduling but well worth it.”

MISSION & IDENTITY

sealed in Jesuit values

Marquette’s updated seal honors the university’s Catholic, Jesuit identity and the legacy of Indigenous nations.

BY TRACY STAEDTER

Later this winter, Marquette’s Board of Trustees approved an updated version of the university’s seal. It was created through thoughtful conversations among a committee of experts convened in 2020 at the request of President Michael R. Lovell. The resulting imagery expresses Marquette’s history and Catholic, Jesuit mission, and recognizes the role of Indigenous nations whose members guided Rev. Jacques Marquette, S.J., through the Upper Midwest. “The updated university seal is a beautiful reflection of who we are and what we stand for,” Lovell says.

One half of the seal captures Marquette’s Catholic, Jesuit traditions. In the upper left, gold and red diagonal bands pay homage to seven heroic brothers from the maternal side of St. Ignatius’ family. To the right, a sunburst encircles the Society of Jesus’ “IHS” monogram. A cross rises from the H; below it, three nails symbolize the Crucifixion.

The other half depicts Marquette’s location among the traditional lands and waterways of the area’s Indigenous nations. Three rivers represent the local Milwaukee, Menominee and Kinnickinnic rivers. Three stalks of wild rice, drawn by Milwaukee-based Oneida artist Kristelle M. Ulrich, symbolize the Potawatomi, Menominee and Ho-Chunk nations. “All journeys in our lives rely on the help of companions, so the seal is a fitting metaphor for the educational mission of Marquette University,” Rev. Greg O’Meara, S.J., says.

Menominee and Ho-Chunk nations. The seal’s “connection to our Indigenous history, along with the classic Jesuit imagery, tells a story of a combined but independent history,” says Alex Liberato, Bus Ad ’21, former president of the Native American Student Association.

Rev. Greg O’Meara, S.J., rector of the Marquette Jesuit Community, says that because “all journeys in our lives rely on the help of companions,” the seal is “a fitting metaphor for the educational mission of Marquette University.”

Finally, a blue-and-gold outer ring declares Marquette’s name, founding year and the Jesuit motto that, as much as any phrase at Marquette, defines its spirit: Ad majorem Dei gloriam, “All for the greater glory of God.”

GRADUATE STUDY

incubating enrollment

Graduate study at Marquette is growing. Since 2016, enrollment in the Graduate School (which is separate from professional programs in law, business and a few other fields) has increased by 500 students. New enrollments rose 22 percent this year alone. The jump is thanks in part to an innovative incubator program that provides seed funding for faculty teams to create degree programs that respond to emerging needs. Established in 2017, the incubator has funded the launch of 18 programs and attracted enough enrollees to earn back its initial investment. Examples include two new offerings in growing fields: a new master’s in criminal justice data analytics and the new rehabilitation counseling specialization within the Clinical Mental Health Counseling master’s program.
E-LEAD
investment in leadership
A $7 million gift from the Fotsch Family Foundation will support Marquette’s Excellence in Leadership (E-Lead) Program, which helps students develop into the next generation of Jesuit-educated leaders. The gift establishes the Fotsch Innovation and Engineering Leadership Development (FIELD) Center and endows its directorship. Program leader Kate Trevy, Bus Ad ’04, is now the Nana Fotsch Director for the FIELD Center, overseeing award-winning program activities, many of which will be held in top-floor space in the O’Brien College of Business Administration building when it opens in early 2023. As the gift lifts the foundation’s support for Marquette’s Time to Rise fundraising campaign to $14 million, Geraldine “Nana” Fotsch says she “must share all the blessings that the good Lord has showered” on her family.

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS
wellness reimagined
Revamped and expanded facility will unite wellness and recreation resources under one roof.

BY CHRISTOPHER STOLARSKI

At his inauguration, President Michael R. Lovell was introduced in a video showing him running through campus and Milwaukee. It told attendees about his personal drive and embrace of fitness, and set a tone for what he calls a “culture of wellness” at Marquette.

At his annual campus address in March, President Lovell unveiled the physical manifestation of that culture: plans for a reimagined wellness and recreation facility on the site of the current Helfaer Rec Center on the southwestern edge of campus.

“We cannot overlook that our students’ health and wellness is important to their success,” he said at the address where he revealed renderings of an estimated $80 million, 180,000-square-foot facility that will combine completely renovated portions of the Rec Center with a newly constructed three-story wellness tower at its core.

Creating a centralized hub for all facets of health and wellness at Marquette has long been a priority for the 24th president and a key part of the Campus Master Plan. “When complete, the facility will position recreation, fitness, and clinical and mental health services under one roof,” Lovell said. “It will eliminate any stigma for anyone walking in the facility no matter what services they need. … When you think about the future of wellness on campus, we want to be the state of the art.”

The glass-encased wellness tower and atrium will welcome in natural light and bring the Marquette University Medical Clinic, the Counseling Center, alcohol and drug recovery program space, and sexual violence prevention space into the same facility as recreation and fitness amenities, including tennis, basketball and multipurpose courts, and a 25-yard swimming pool.

The goal is to complete the facility by the end of 2024, contingent on funding. An anonymous alumni couple in December 2021 launched a $10 million giving challenge toward the effort.

CLASS ACT

MU/360°
Finally, something I’m good at.

BY REV. GARRETT GUNDLACH, S.J.

I was the first one out of the restaurant by design, quick down and around the stairs for the best position beside a new drift of snow. The next guys out didn’t know what hit them, BAM! on the pant leg, WHOP! in the back of their puffy jackets. And all they heard or saw was laughter.

Half made a run straight for the cars — it was already way too cold for them before the snow — and the barrage of frozen projectiles only intensified this inclination. But the other half, in fake flee, scooped, turned and — by a snowball woefully off the mark — thus announced their intended retaliation. Instantly, I found myself in the middle of a free-for-all. I sized up my challengers on the fly by the quality of their packing, their ducks, dodges, distance and, of course, by their accuracy. But soon, none of that mattered as — WHAP! OOF! — shifting alliance by shifting alliance, numb finger by numb hand — we became, once more, no matter what climate we were from, children at play, mouths frozen open with glee.

CURATED
FURRY AND FEATHERED

Before St. Joan of Arc Chapel and its grounds were renovated recently, Dr. Darek Ciemniewski, Grad ’91, ’99, law school writing specialist, found the space “rich in opportunities” to capture birds, bugs and small mammals in close-up photographs. He’ll return to the new Gratitude Garden this spring, on the lookout for resident Northern Cardinals and their young brood.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
The formation of Jesuit priest Garrett Gundlach, S.J., Arts ’09, has taken him from Paris to Lebanon for studies in Arabic and Islam-Christian dialogue; he returned to the U.S. last summer for his ordination as priest.
FOR BASIR BITA, HIS
WIFE, HOSNIA, AND
THEIR CHILDREN,
MARQUETTE AWAITS
AT THE END OF A
PERILOUS JOURNEY.

WHEN LONGTIME PARTNER
BASEIR BITA BECAME A TALIBAN
TARGET, MARQUETTE RALLIED
WITH A RELOCATION PLAN.
BITA AND HIS FAMILY JUST
NEEDED TO ESCAPE FIRST.

ONE WAY
OUT

“Taliban is everywhere ... ”

It’s Aug. 13 in Milwaukee, Aug. 14 in Kabul, two
days before the Afghan capital will fall to the Taliban,
roughly two weeks before the U.S. will complete its
withdrawal from its last post at Kabul’s international
airport. Tensions flare.

Seven thousand miles away, at Marquette, Patrick
Kennelly, Arts ’07, Grad ’13, follows the news on his
phone and fears for his friend. He sends a message:
“In these difficult times how can we help you?”

The friend is Basir Bita: a colleague, an activist,
a target. Bita’s 17-year-old daughter, Mahdia, was
injured in a drive-by shooting. His wife, Hosnia Rezaee,
worries the Taliban will kill him. This danger stems
from Bita’s work fighting for the rights of the
marginalized: women, minorities, the poor and
LGBTQ members of Afghan society.

It’s a mission Bita shares with Kennelly, a thread
binding Afghanistan and Marquette. The two have
worked for years with partners to build a program in
nonviolence connecting Bita’s cohort of young peace
workers in Afghanistan and Marquette’s Center for
Peacemaking, which Kennelly directs. But now, plans
perish in the rubble of bombs and guns. Dreams take
a rear seat to immediate needs.
The incident redirected Bita’s life. “When I was rejected, I decided to go to Afghanistan and pursue my education.” It became a place for him to further develop his identity and connect with his roots. From the day he started preparing for his move, he thought, “This is home…. This is where I belong.” Remembering those days, he always smiles “because they were nice days,” he says. But they didn’t last. Although he’d grown up speaking Dari, one of two official languages in Afghanistan, he was required to learn Pashto — the other language — for a class. “It was difficult,” he says. His grade suffered because of the language barrier, and he saw his experience as another form of discrimination, paralleling an ethnocentrism soon revealed all around him — across the university, in the political and economic layers of the country as a whole. For Bita, this was an entree to activism. He and friends joined Hazaras student associations, “so we had our own network; we were doing our own advocacy,” he says. “I had to struggle and fight for my rights, even in my own country.”

One of eight such academic centers at Jesuit institutions worldwide, the Marquette Center for Peacemaking was founded in 2008 to cultivate the next generation of nonviolent peacemakers, “young people who would have the courage to challenge injustice and address social realities,” Kennelly says. His role guiding the center grew from a connection with Afghan activists. “We’re a small but nascent peace group trying to explore the power of nonviolence,” she says. “You stupid Afghan!” “I’m not an Afghan!” he replied in shock. “Yes, you are,” the official said. “Go home and ask your parents.” So he did, and they told him: “We are originally Afghan. And we should be proud of our identity.”

Jump ahead several years to 2003. Bita was taking Iran’s Konkour, the brutally competitive nationwide exam used to assign spaces in public universities. He finished in the top 1,000, out of more than a million. Good enough for him to enroll in the second-highest-rated public university. But soon, the university told him refugees were ineligible for admission. Even more galling: Syrian and Iraqi refugees gained admission, even though Bita was born there.”

His role guiding the center grew from a connection with Afghan activists, “so we had our own network; we were doing our own advocacy,” he says. “I had to struggle and fight for my rights, even in my own country.”

Bita and his family try to flee seven times. “I witnessed … literally thousands of people storming into the airport,” he recalls. “Every time.” U.S. soldiers try to curb the chaos, cursing and pointing guns at desperate faces. By now, the Taliban form an intimidating force around the airport. Soldiers haunt the nightmares of Bita’s son, Barbod. “You can imagine how horrible it is for a 5-year-old kid to go through all those challenges,” Bita says.

Half a world away, Kennelly and his colleagues mobilize. The center issues a statement asking friends and supporters to pray for an end to the suffering, to help in any way they can. The appeal ignites action. Activists, peacemakers, educators, administrators — so many want to help. Someone asks, can Marquette provide education to an Afghan in need? A donor pledges to fund a scholarship. Kennelly calls Rana Altenburg, Bus Ad ’88, associate vice president for public affairs. Will Marquette get behind this impromptu idea? She advises checking with her boss, Paul Jones, vice president for university relations. It’s 7 or 8 p.m. when Kennelly calls, and Jones is at Valley Fields watching a Marquette men’s soccer match since his son plays on the team. As soon as he hears the story, Jones says yes, let’s find a prospective student. After more than a dozen years of collaboration, the Marquette center and its partners had a list of 90 or so Afghans needing aid — and they had to choose one. A sobering triage hinged on the question: Where could the greatest good be done? “And Basir rose to the top,” Kennelly says. Not only did he have stellar academic credentials and a longterm desire to further his education, but an F-1 student visa could bring his family of four to safety.

Kennelly makes a call on WhatsApp: “Hey Basir, it’s Pat. Give me a call on Signal. I have a couple of options I wanna talk to you about.” Marquette had a plan for Bita’s future. But first, Bita had to get out of Kabul. Basir Bita didn’t know he was Afghan until he was 13 or 14. Born and raised in Iran, he thought of himself as Iranian until one day, a school official insulted him with a slur he paraphrases as, “You stupid Afghan!”

The drama unfolds over Facebook and WhatsApp, long-distance lifelines of hope. Within hours, Kabul falls. The airport remains a rare escape option, per a U.S.-Taliban deal to cooperate in the massive, frenzied evacuation that marks the end of this 20-year occupation. “What are you going to do? Can you get a flight?” Kennelly asks. “It’s difficult now. All flights are booked for all neighboring countries,” Bita replies. “Sending love to you and yours.”

“Likewise. Love you all.”

“Sending love to you and yours.”

“I witnessed … literally thousands of people storming into the airport,” he recalls. “Every time.” U.S. soldiers try to curb the chaos, cursing and pointing guns at desperate faces. By now, the Taliban form an intimidating force around the airport. Soldiers haunt the nightmares of Bita’s son, Barbod. “You can imagine how horrible it is for a 5-year-old kid to go through all those challenges,” Bita says.

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After experimenting at the Kabul airport and falling multiple times to find a flight out of there, Basir Bita, his wife Hosnia, and their children, Mahdia (17) and Barbod (5), finally made it safely to Canada. With anticipated visas in hand, they’ll be in Milwaukee by summer.

connect us?” Thus began the relationship between Bita’s group and international peacemakers. By 2011, when Kennelly made the first of many trips to Afghanistan, he was the Marquette center’s associate director and driven by a noble ambition: ending the war. “It is clear that the use of violence is impotent in its ability to resolve this conflict or bring peace,” he wrote at the time. Only through person-to-person relationships could peace prevail.

Kennelly recalls wearing Western clothes, walking through parks and drinking tea. But the sense of danger escalated, particularly as President Barack Obama oversaw a drawdown of U.S. troops from 2011 to 2016. “We started wearing more traditional clothes and changing our route,” Kennelly says. It proved safer to avoid hotels and stay in private homes. “People would roll out a mat and just sleep on the floor,” he says. They shared family meals, sitting on cushions, eating traditional Afghan bread. “It was an eye-opener for Kennelly. “There was more of an honesty in thinking through what it would actually mean to be nonviolent.”

Three months before the U.S. pullout, the Taliban mount an offensive, seizing territory by victory in villages and in Kabul. Bita and his family start moving from house to house, lying low to evade capture. “My biggest concern in Kabul was that if the Taliban arrested my husband, they would definitely behead him,” Rezaee says, Bita translating. “If Taliban find you on the streets they will stop you, they will do a body search,” Bita shares in a WhatsApp message. “They will look up at your phone and if they found any connections, who knows about the consequences.”

Bita later sends a photo of the famous Blue Mosque in Mazar-i-Sharif, where children scamper about with colorful balloons. This tranquil spot, surrounded by hundreds of white doves, is often called an “oasis of peace.” Within days, a Canadian nonprofit group supportive of Bita arranges tickets for the family on a humanitarian flight to Islamabad in neighboring Pakistan. It is “the very last flight of the United Nations for Afghans,” Bita says. “There were no more places for such kind in the future.”

But even their passage to Pakistan does not end this long, circuitous search for sanctuary. The family arrives in Toronto in late August, the final hours of the U.S. evacuation from Kabul’s airport. There is no longer a wall of air craft behind them. Instead, Bita and his family travel overlaid 260 miles northwest to Mazar-i-Sharif. The Taliban control almost all aspects of life and society now, but there is talk of an evacuation flight leaving from there.

Along the road, Taliban soldiers search Bita’s bus. When they reach him, they demand: “What’s inside your bag?” He is terrified. His laptop holds all his data, his life and identity. Single moment could ruin his family’s future. It’s food for my kids, Bita says. And to his great relief, the soldier tells him, “OK.” The family makes it intact. “Just arrived in Mazar-i-Sharif,” Bita texts Kennelly on Aug. 30. But they’re not safe. The next day, Taliban soldiers fire shots in the air to celebrate their triumph. There’s a curfew for civilians. “If Taliban find you on the streets they will stop you, they will do a body search,” Bita shares in a WhatsApp message. “They will look up at your phone and if they found any connections, who knows about the consequences.”

“Sometimes when I talk about what I went through in detail, I feel chopped, and tears come down my face.” As the journey of Bita and his family winds slowly, hopefully toward Milwaukee, Kennelly and colleagues raise roughly $10,000 for the family. It’s $40,000 short of their overall goal, Kennelly says, but there is still time.

Through the collaboration of a department head, dean and donors, Bita is prepared to enroll in Marquette’s Clinical Mental Health Counseling master’s program this fall. Others are working to help Mahdia pursue her studies, since she was just shy of high school graduation in Kabul. And Notre Dame School of Milwaukee, led by Patrick Landry, Arts ’08, will welcome Barford for first grade.

Meanwhile, Bita keeps working to help others stuck in Afghanistan. He sends immigration information to friends, fueling their flagging stamina. “They have no hope for their future,” he admits. He counsels with fortitude. His decision to study counseling at Marquette is driven by the needs of his people. His transition to academics, prompted by the cruelty of conflict, may ultimately pave his future path toward peace. “I am hopeful that someday I will be able to establish my own nonviolence institute in Afghanistan,” he says.

“I was very close … before the fall of Kabul.” Until then, he has new chapters of his story to write. He and his family are in Vancouver now, as they pursue U.S. residency. In summer — if expected visas come through, and circumstance throws no more curveballs their way — the family will move to Milwaukee. Until they find a place of their own, Kennelly and his wife, Emmey Malloy, Arts ’06, Grad ’12, will shelter them in the spacious house they share with their two children and her parents. There is room for more, Malloy says, in both house and heart.

“Dear Patrick, How are you, Emmeiny and little buddies?” Bita asks in a recent message. “We learn new things about Canada every day. Nice place, but chilly. ... You must remember that I have been writing the story of my journey from Kabul … It’s more than 55,000 words now. ... The purpose of writing the story is to raise awareness and advocate for those still stuck in Afghanistan but in dire need of support.”

“Congrats on the progress,” Kennelly replies. “Thanks. The work is not finished yet.”
BRENDAN GRAMER IS LISTENING

BY LORA STRUM

BORN DEAF; THE AMAZON EXECUTIVE AND ALUMNUS KNOWS WHAT IT’S LIKE TO FEEL UNHEARD. IT’S WHY HIS LIFE’S WORK REVOLVES AROUND HEARING WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS.

Brendan Gramer grew up mainstreamed in a hearing world and, to fit in, he used oral communication with friends and family. While many people were supportive, he still faced slights or microaggressions, called audism in the deaf community, from those who may not recognize their hearing privilege. He gives an example that sometimes happens when he’s in a large group and asks someone to repeat themselves. Often, that person will say to him, “Oh, never mind,” and move on.

Deaf individuals feel left out in those moments, he says. “It doesn’t recognize us as human beings.”

In those situations, he tries to identify reasonable accommodations. When dining out, he’ll ask the waitstaff to write down any specials so he doesn’t have to strain to understand them over the cacophony of dishware and conversation. This form of self-advocacy was something he honed through his interactions with others in the deaf community. “I let go of the idea that I was weak or dependent on others, or that I couldn’t ask for support,” Gramer says. In adopting that new mindset, he stopped referring to himself as deaf and instead adopted the strength inherent in being Deaf — capital D.

Friendly and attentive even over a pixelated Zoom call, Gramer clearly values the forging of strong networks. It’s a habit he first developed in grade school and continued to cultivate at Marquette, where befriending fellow students was about more than camaraderie. Letting people in allowed him to compare notes when he couldn’t understand a lecture and create a study group that helped meet his unique needs.

Gramer’s life may be the embodiment of what it means to Be The Difference by embracing differences, but for him the idea goes beyond just achieving workplace change. Being a difference maker requires being vulnerable enough to share our stories. “That empowers all of us to become closer and to create support,” he says. “That’s the message I want to tell everyone at Marquette: Share your stories, believe your truth and ask for help.”

Today, Gramer’s dedication to finding new ways to help others communicate is unwavering, but what he’s most excited about in his work and life is leaving something behind for his sons. “I want to have lived my life knowing what I’ve done benefits others, especially my boys,” he says, “and makes the world a better, more inclusive place for them.”
WEEKLY GROUP ACTIVITIES KEEP STUDENTS ENGAGED WITH SCHOOL AND WITH THEIR PEERS.

THE YOUNG PROGRAM ON YOUR MARQ GIVES AUTISTIC STUDENTS A HOME AT MARQUETTE — AND SUPPORTS THEM AS THEY BUILD THE SKILLS THEY NEED TO GRADUATE AND FIND CAREERS.

BY TRACY STAEDTER

It’s the first week of final exams and about 35 students — all wearing masks — gather around a U-shaped conference table to decorate gingerbread houses. Laughter and holiday music soften the office-bright lighting. In the back of the room, the comforting smell of pepperoni and cheese rises from a dozen pizza boxes stacked on a table.

“I think it’s great that we’re doing this, especially during finals when people are lonely,” says sophomore Ben Jennings. “We need to get together and just relax.”

Stress and isolation are difficult for anybody, but for the one person in 44 in the U.S. living with autism spectrum disorder, Jennings among them, coping with college can be particularly challenging. Autism affects the brain’s early development of social and communication skills. Although students on the spectrum often possess strong intellectual capabilities, they must overcome other obstacles standing in the way of their academic progress, such as difficulty managing time, staying organized and studying effectively.
On Your Marq Program

Director Emily Raclaw (above, at desk and far right) says her personal experience with neurodivergence helps her relate to her students. Raven, the therapy dog, pulls students out of their shells.

“Only about 44 percent of individuals with a disability, including ASD, graduate,” says Dr. Amy Van Hecke, professor of psychology. “For those without a disability, the U.S. graduation rate is about 69 percent.”

Seeing an opportunity to meet a glaring educational need, Van Hecke teamed with Dr. Mary Carlson, Grad ’16, clinical associate professor of educational policy and leadership, and Wendy Krueger, Grad ’92, clinical associate professor of speech pathology and audiology, to establish a set of strategies to help neurodivergent students manage college. With funding from donors, they created the On Your Marq program, which launched in 2019. Its web of support includes the program’s director, Emily Raclaw, her support dog, Raven, and a host of peer mentors and coaches who assist autistic students in building their academic, social and mental health.

Raclaw (above, at February. Raclaw calls Raven her ambassador. “She’s just a great conversationalist,” says Raclaw. “She interacts with everyone who walks by.”

Raclaw says she can relate to her neurodivergent students. “I found that I was able to connect with them and that’s what I wanted to do,” she says. “I wanted to help them navigate the world.”

“I imagine that if I had not joined the program, I would be quite lost with regards to the goings-on on campus. I would probably only focus on my work and nothing else. In reality, I am a lot more aware of events I might want to participate in,” says Black, now a junior double majoring in math and computer science who was recently admitted to the Accelerated Degree Program in computing, which will allow him to earn a master’s in one year.

“I’m incredibly proud of how Marquette has fully embraced On Your Marq,” says Raclaw. “Freshmen and sophomores get more support as they learn how to transition from high school to college. They’re coached on how to ask questions and find answers, how to communicate their needs. They learn to advocate for themselves. Juniors and seniors receive less support as they move from college to career. Through courses designed to reveal potential job interests and practice with resume writing and interviews, students begin to imagine themselves in the workplace.

Ideally, the students continue to grow and persevere after graduation, using the strategies they’ve learned to communicate their needs and “get what they need in their life,” Raclaw says. “I hope more than anything else that they are happy and satisfied with the experience they had at Marquette and are excited about what the future holds for them.”

Web of support: On Your Marq Program

“This is about cura personalis. This is about recruiting a population of students who might not come here otherwise.”

— Dr. Amy Van Hecke, professor of psychology

Krueger was independently impressed with Raclaw. Her own experience living with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder combined with her expertise creating college programs for disability, diversity and neurodiversity education made her an ideal candidate. “She’s a force to be reckoned with, and that’s what we need,” Van Hecke says.

Black, Wadsworth’s son, was among the first cohort of five students to sign up in 2019. Like all On Your Marq participants, he was assigned a peer mentor and a graduate coach from one of Marquette’s psychology, counseling or occupational therapy programs. Graduate coaches work one-on-one with students to create individualized plans for managing academics, social life and independent living. Peer mentors help the students execute those plans. Mentors also organize events, such as football- or movie-watching parties and video game tournaments. And they provide tips on navigating relationships and social interactions.

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Dr. Sarah Wadsworth, professor of English at Marquette, started to worry about how her son, Blaise Black, who is autistic, was going to successfully manage living on a busy college campus. He was a junior in a suburban Milwaukee high school and although he excelled academically, he was showing signs of stress from the environmental and organizational aspects of school and seemed reluctant to contemplate post-secondary options.

Then Wadsworth read an article in a Marquette newsletter that Van Hecke, Carlson and Krueger were preparing. “I changed my whole outlook,” says Wadsworth.

The program was funded with a gift from John, Arts ’64, and Kate Miller, who had a young family member on the spectrum and were concerned about the child’s prospects for college. In their search for a director, Van Hecke, Carlson and
Marquette’s 2022 All-University Awards recipients have profound impact as women and men for others. They will be honored on campus on June 3 in a ceremony that concludes an amazing awards season recognizing honorees from Marquette’s colleges, professional schools and alumni groups who embody the university’s mission through their character, achievements and impact.
Peggy Troy learned how to treat each patient with cura personalis when she was a child making house calls with her father, a family doctor in a tiny Illinois town. During her undergraduate years in Marquette’s nursing program, she adopted this value of knowing patients beyond their medical needs and reinforced it. She carried this Jesuit-based approach into her career as a nurse and hospital leader to her current tenure as president and CEO of Children’s Wisconsin, the nationally ranked regional health care system dedicated to the health and well-being of children. She credits her pediatric nursing instructor at Marquette with sparking her passion for serving children and their families. “The way she interacted with children and thought about their care really helped set my direction,” Troy recalls. The Marquette mission continues to challenge Troy to serve her community, she says. “For me this award really is a reflection on everyone who has helped me along the way and rolled up their sleeves alongside me to make a difference for kids.”

Dick Strong grew up guided by mentors after losing both parents at a young age. First was his Uncle Robert, then coaches and, later, professors. These invaluable relationships helped form Strong into the person he is today — a visionary leader who honors his mentors of yesterday by giving back today. His support of Marquette spans half a century, starting during the early years of coach Al McGuire. “From that point, the Marquette community became a piece of us,” Strong says. “It was a fascinating phenomenon.” He remembers lean years long before fans filled Fiserv Forum. He then envisioned Marquette emerging as a national basketball power. His vision now spans far beyond the court. “My dream is for Marquette to be one of the great universities in the world,” he says. “Basketball is one wonderful vehicle for that to happen. I consider it a great privilege to be involved with Marquette.”

Katie and Matt Wessel are committed to making a difference in the lives of others — with the help of authentic German-style pretzels. The couple launched the Milwaukee Pretzel Co. in 2013 after living and working for a year in Munich, Germany. “The most rewarding part has been employing and mentoring some amazing people,” Matt Wessel says. As the business has expanded, their company has contributed thousands to local organizations. Both Wessels come from Marquette families, and faith is central to their lives. Matt Wessel calls the Marquette mission an “unspoken road map” for his life, while Katie Wessel is driven by the words of St. Ignatius of Loyola. “This award makes me even more energized to live the Marquette mission,” she says, “and go set the world on fire.”
When Samira M. Payne, Arts ’10, drives around Milwaukee’s North Side, it reminds her of the streets where she grew up. A native of Chicago’s South Side, she sees a community with similar trials and triumphs. Her first thoughts are for the youth — the college hopefuls. How can she help them navigate the trials and triumphs. Her first thoughts are for the streets where she grew up. A native of Chicago’s South Side, she sees a community with similar trials and triumphs. Her first thoughts are for the youth — the college hopefuls. How can she help them navigate the university and the country’s mechanical engineering history in energy, aviation, land transportation and more. Issued in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the history and heritage committee of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the book collects articles published in the society’s flagship magazine, Mechanism Engineering. Fehting is a contributor to and co-editor of the book.

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Alumni from years ending in 1, 2, 6 and 7, this is your reunion year! Learn about Alumni Reunion Weekend at marquette.edu/awards.

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Dr. Christopher P. Nemeth, Arts ’71, was named a fellow of Applied Research Associates Inc., a 1,500-member national science and engineering consulting firm. Nemeth leads ARA’s Cognitive Solutions Group, performing research and development to support individual and team cognitive work in high-hazard sectors. He was also inducted intoEta Kappa Nu, the national honor society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

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eliminate kidney toxicity and increase survival in prostate cancer patients. Lawton’s numerous accomplishments include serving as the program director of the MOW Radiation Oncology Residency Program for 25 years and helping create the Radiation Oncology Institute. Her dedication to education, mentoring and patient care has helped launch many careers in medicine and improved care for countless patients.

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ROAD LESS TRAVELED

After reading A Walk in the Woods — Bill Bryson’s tale of hiking the Appalachian Trail with a friend — Harvey Dannenberg, Arts ’63, decided “that if these two older and somewhat overweight guys could do it, I could too.” He section-hiked all 2,193 miles of the trail over a 13-year period, finishing in Pennsylvania in September 2021, a few months after his 80th birthday. Dannenberg, known as “Grandpa Walking,” shares lessons from the trail in Maine’s Appalachian Trail — How Seniors Made Section Hiking Easier, due from Dorrance Publishing in May. He hopes to inspire others to follow in his footsteps.

Sheila A. (Miller) Baker, Bus Ad ’85, Murs ’91, was appointed bureau chief of long-term care at the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Michael C. Harms, Eng ’83, received the Johnson Controls Chairman’s Award in 2017 for his team’s innovative approach to a safety restraint system on rooftops and frontrowing equipment.

Gregory E. Massucci, Bus Ad ’84, received the Good Neighbor Award from the National Association of Realtors. Massucci established a farm program four years ago that employs intellectually and developmentally disabled teens and young adults as growers.

Steve K. Bertrand, Jour ’95, launched Chicago’s Afternoon News with Steve Bertrand on WGN Radio in September 2021. He’s been at the station for more than 30 years and was named to its Walk of Fame in 2015.

Timothy Karp, Bus Ad ’85, joined Milwaukee-based Max Weiss Co. as controller.

Reunion Year

Rev. Michael S. Bayard, S.J., Arts ’87, joined Seattle University’s Center for Jesuit Education as Jesuit assistant for pastoral and spiritual outreach. He also works as chaplain at the Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative Northwest.

Fred Brlica, Jour ’87, is an international pilot for Delta Air Lines. He flies the Airbus A330 and is based at John F. Kennedy International Airport.

Patricia (Clifton) Smith, Law ’87, was named general counsel of Grand Valley State University, Allendale, Mich., in June 2021.

Jean (Crnkovich) Beatty, Comm ’83, was recognized as a Top Producer in Real Estate for a variety of local publications, including Washington, D.C.’s Best of 2021, Northern Virginia Magazine and Arlington Magazine. She also surpassed her goal of $30 million in sales volume for 2021. Beatty is licensed in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia and has been a Top Producer of the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors Multi-million Dollar Sales Club since 2015.

Lisa (Provost) Reardon, Bus Ad ’88, is CEO and chairman of OwnersEdge Inc., and was named the 2021 Don Richards Leadership Award winner by the Waukesha County Business Alliance. Reardon was honored based on her strategic vision that’s guided OwnersEdge through a series of acquisitions and focuses on involving team members in the leadership process.

Michael Baxendale, CPA ’89, was inducted into the Massachusetts Broadcasters Hall of Fame. Baxendale has been the co-host of the long-running WQX & O’Brien morning radio show at WAQY in Springfield, Mass., since 1995. See also “Greater Good,” p. 35.

Christina M. (Tleinstein) Stoll, Comm ’89, received diamond-level Certified Trade Show Marketer credentials. The CTSM designation is awarded by Exhibitor in affiliation with Northern Illinois University Outreach and reflects adherence to the highest educational standards of trade show and event marketing. A lifelong resident of the Greater Milwaukee area, Stoll has worked in face-to-face marketing and communications management with Fortune 500 companies such as GE Healthcare and Rockwell Automation. She is a consultant with HD Supply, a Home Depot company.

The Greater Good

Mike Baxendale’s job description as longtime voice, rather — has become synonymous with the event, now in its 28th year, that typically fills multiple 48-foot trailers. But he gets his drive — and to stay awake — from those behind the scenes. Many of the volunteers have benefited from a local food pantry in the past. “There’s a great deal of humanity in their desire to help. It’s not about putting yourself on the back, but what happens after that.” — ALY PROUTY, COMM ’19
Spreading Marquette spirit comes naturally to Jim, Arts ’89, and Tracy (Lynch) Ryan, CIPA ’89, who hosted a group of enthusiastic Marquette alumni, parents, staff and friends to cheer on the men’s basketball team at the Shriners Children’s Charleston Classic in November. Beyond the stands, the couple champion student success through philanthropic support for endowed scholarship and experiential learning, and by sharing expertise with the President’s Advisory Council and College of Business Administration Sales Excellence Advisory Board. As Chicago-region campaign chairs, the Ryans also create local momentum around annual giving by leading the Time to Rise Windy City Challenge, which resulted in significant new supporters last year alone.

From Chicago? Join the challenge! marquette.edu/windy-city
As ambassador to Luxembourg, former Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett has a key ally in Mike Ansaray, Bus Ad ’76, whose ties to the country run deep. His father hosted a 1960s visit to Milwaukee by the country’s grand duke, and Ansaray himself is an honorary consul and knight of Luxembourg.

The CEO of the insurance agency Ansaray & Associates was also instrumental in helping Gentner, a business accelerator co-founded by Joe Kirgues, Bus Ad ’05, open its first European office in Luxembourg City.

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Coppersmith
Sara Dahmen polishes the copper pot she has crafted by hand in her shop in Port Washington, Wisconsin. The process requires donning protective gear and wiping melted food-safe tin on the pot while holding it over a blazing fire. She appears to be the only woman in the country building copper cookware: “If there’s somebody else out there doing this, I really want to meet them.”

A latecomer to metalworking, Dahmen first worked in marketing and advertising. Then she moved into wedding planning. Her events company found success quickly, but a decade later, the two reconnected in Washington, D.C. Five years later, the couple was married.

Initially focused on distribution, she launched House Copper & Cookware in 2015. But when fabricators delivered the pots, Dahmen wanted to be more than an observer. She apprenticed with master tinsmith Bob Bartelme in nearby West Bend, learning how to craft pots using hand and power tools, and flames.

“Every time I decide to try something new, I feel like I’m twirling and I’m readjusting my kinks, turning myself into a different shape,” says Dahmen, who continues writing, including 2020’s Copper, Iron, and Clay: A Smith’s Journey from William Morrow/HarperCollins. She credits communication studies with helping her gain access to the metalsmithing world, making valuable connections and becoming versatile. “Still, it’s on you just to say, ‘Yes, I’m going to try this.’”

Second Act
FORGING CONNECTIONS
BY ALYSSA DANIGELIS

Sara Dahmen polishes the copper pot she has crafted by hand in her shop in Port Washington, Wisconsin. The process requires donning protective gear and wiping melted food-safe tin on the pot while holding it over a blazing fire. She appears to be the only woman in the country building copper cookware: “If there’s somebody else out there doing this, I really want to meet them.”

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BY ALYSSA DANIGELIS

Sara Dahmen polishes the copper pot she has crafted by hand in her shop in Port Washington, Wisconsin. The process requires donning protective gear and wiping melted food-safe tin on the pot while holding it over a blazing fire. She appears to be the only woman in the country building copper cookware: “If there’s somebody else out there doing this, I really want to meet them.”

A latecomer to metalworking, Dahmen first worked in marketing and advertising. Then she moved into wedding planning. Her events company found success quickly, but a decade later, the two reconnected in Washington, D.C. Five years later, the couple was married.

Initially focused on distribution, she launched House Copper & Cookware in 2015. But when fabricators delivered the pots, Dahmen wanted to be more than an observer. She apprenticed with master tinsmith Bob Bartelme in nearby West Bend, learning how to craft pots using hand and power tools, and flames.

“Every time I decide to try something new, I feel like I’m twirling and I’m readjusting my kinks, turning myself into a different shape,” says Dahmen, who continues writing, including 2020’s Copper, Iron, and Clay: A Smith’s Journey from William Morrow/HarperCollins. She credits communication studies with helping her gain access to the metalsmithing world, making valuable connections and becoming versatile. “Still, it’s on you just to say, ‘Yes, I’m going to try this.’”

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TOGETHER AGAIN

After seeing little of each other for 50 years, 11 former residents of Stewart Hall (once located on the Central Mall) planned a trip to Chicago’s Wrigley Field for a Cubs-Brewers game. They shared beers, but didn’t “re-create college capsers,” says Carl Lundquist, Arts ’68. From left to right: Peter Maloney, Arts ’70; Gerry Waldron, Arts ’68; V.J. Barry, Arts ’69; Tom Kehoe, Bus Ad ’68; Scott Sayer, Bus Ad ’68; and John Finn, Arts ’67, who passed away.

REUNION YEAR

17 Kaye (Scherzer) Steinhart, Nurs ’57, and Jacob Steinhart, Eng ’18, were on July 24, 2021, at Church of the Gesu surrounded by family and friends. The couple met at Marquette.

Ryan S. Sullivan, O.D., Arts ’17, received a doctorate of optometry from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in May 2021.

Katie (Tschele) Torrico, HSCI ’12, and Enrique Torrico, Comm ’15, Grad ’17, were on Oct. 2, 2021, in Milwaukee. Many Marquette co-workers and alumni were there to celebrate, including best man, Sam Hernandez, Arts ’15, and maids of honor, Kara Sandquist, Arts ’12, and Dr. Mariah Frank, HSCI ’17, PT ’19.

18 Michael P. Anders, Bus Ad ’18, has completed the licensing requirements to practice as a certified public accountant. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants.

Col Beazer, Eng ’18, was selected as vice president of the M Club, the athletic alumni association of Marquette Athletics, which annually supports athletes and programs.

Chris Caamaeck, Arts ’18, was named to KGRA News’ 2021 Top 60 Under 40 HAVEC Professional as government relations manager for the Air Conditioning Contractors of America.

Ryan Kaestner, Eng ’18, and Stephanie (Karis) Kaestner, Comm ’17, were on July 1, 2021, at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center. Many Marquette alumni were in attendance.

Emelia Karakis, D.D.S., HSCI ’18, Dent ’21, has begun a three-year orthodontics residency in Chicago.

Devinne Love, Comm ’18, was named account executive at Beacon Hill Staffing Group in Chicago.

Nicholas S. Schield, HSCI ’18, and Alexa (Thornton) Schield, were on July 1, 2021. The couple are high school sweethearts who met in Janesville, Wis., at Joseph A. Craig High School and started dating on July 2, 2013.

Christiana (Gerchansky) Trapani, Grad ’18, purchased the Door County Candle Co. in June 2021. Her husband, Dominic J. Trapani, Comm ’14, helps her run the business.

Dr. Mark Bouwenwester, HSCI ’19, PT ’21, was named assistant football athletic trainer at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Jonathan Jean-Baptiste, Arts ’19, was named legislative correspondent in the Washington, D.C., office of U.S. Sen. Gary Peters (D-Mich.). His policy areas are judiciary, economy, and health care.

Aly Provot, Comm ’19, was named digital producer at Spectrum News 1 Wisconsin. She is responsible for creating and managing content for the Spectrum News app, social media channels and websites.

Tara Schumal, Comm ’19, was named the crewing admin for Fox Sports in Los Angeles.

Maloney Winkler, Comm ’19, Grad ’20, was named digital account coordinator at Gift Edge Soccer Marketing in Chicago.

REUNION YEAR

20 Alejandro S. (Lugm) Poqueta, HSCI ’20, PW ’21, and Adam Poqueta, HSCI ’20, were on July 17, 2021. Adam is currently in graduate school at the Medical College of Wisconsin in the anesthesiology assistant program. Alejandro started his PA career at Children’s Wisconsin. They met their freshman year in Dr. Kemp’s biology class.

Cod Blazer, HSCI ’21, is working for Bell Ambulance and hopes to apply to a physician assistant studies program in a few years.

They put their trust in God to overcome adoption obstacles and break down stigmas.

By Sabrina Faulks-Thomas, Bus Ad ’19, as told to Tracy Staedter

I was nursing our son Cree, in between dozing and being awake, when I heard a voice say, “You need to adopt.” I fell in my heart it was the Holy Spirit.

Chermond and I had considered adoption in 2014, after caring for two brothers who were 2 years and 6 months old. We wanted to adopt them, but they returned to their birth mom.

After I told Chermond about God’s words, we spoke to an adoption agency. The cost was $40,000. That was the pivotal point for our families, who had doubts, to say, “This is bigger than us.”

After a couple of matches fell through, I got a message from the mom of the two boys we wanted to adopt in 2014. She had been following our fundraiser story and, while waiting to have a C-section in the hospital, called to say she wanted us to adopt her baby. God had brought things full circle.

I was born on Feb. 17, 2021. He is the most perfect fit for our family. Since then, we’ve had conversations with other Black families about adoption to help break down the stigma—to pour out our testimony and to glorify God.
LET’S CELEBRATE THESE ALUMNI MILESTONES

Send your photo of the happy couple or new addition to your family. We’ll share as many as possible here.

- Katie (Tuchel), H Sci ’12, and Enrique Terrero, Comm ’15, Grad ’17; 2 Katie (Mills), Law ’15, and Ryan Ybarra, Law ’16; 3 Penelope, daughter of Lexi (Santiat), Comm ’13, Grad ’20, and Jacob Schlindwein, H Sci ’13, Dent ’16; 4 Jacqueline Borella, Comm ’16, Grad ’18, and Anthony Ball, Ed ’17, Grad ’20; 5 Lincoln, son of Matt, Comm ’12, and Megan Heinrich; 6 Meghan (Arnold), Comm ’12, and Sam Pederson; 7 Margaret (Kaulin), Nurs ’18, and Matthew Woldtch, Arts ’16; 8 Leonardo, son of Brina (Rosta), Arts ’15, and Tyler Sherrill; 9 Maggie (Roderaro), Arts ’15, and David Convy; 10 Judi (Rogel) McDermer, Comm ’07, and Andrew Depen; 11 Megan (Dougherty), Bus Ad ’16, and Brenda Farine, Bus Ad ’16, 12 Sydney Bradley, H Sci ’18, and Andrew Depen; 13 Megan (Dougherty), Bus Ad ’16, and Brenda Farine, Bus Ad ’16; 14 Jordan, son of Jennifer (Kashore), Comm ’13, and Robert Schon, 15 Maura, daughter of Megan (Kehl), Arts ’06, and Patrick Simotes, Arts ’06, 16 Malene (Hommer), Bus Ad ’09, and Jeff Shaffer, Eng ’10; 17 Bennett, son of Sophia (Sauder), Comm ’07, and Jonathan McQuade, Eng ’10; 18 Arina, daughter of Julie (Burnes), Comm ’08, and Chris Carter; with siblings Luke and Eliza; 19 Theodora, son of Meghan (Farmer), Bus Ad ’18, Grad ’19, and Justin Wilm, Bus Ad ’08; 20 Katherine, daughter of Allison (Proven), H Sci ’12, PA ’15, and Matthew Mohnke, H Sci ’12; 21 Megan Fagalde, H Sci ’12, and Eric Balie, H Sci ’12, 22 Emmett, son of Megan (Farmer), Comm ’08, and Dan Shearer; with siblings Seelie, Maura, and Delaney; 23 Mathew, son of Maximilian Marcin, Dent ’16; 24 Noah, son of Lizabeth (Czaplewski), Comm ’05, and Tim Haake; 25 Aaron (Leschne), Comm ’14, and Tim (Kahler) Cary; 26 Alexandra (Lopat), H Sci ’30, PA ’21, and Adam Paige, H Sci ’30; 27 Doven (Gibson), Ed ’16, and Meg Yu, Arts ’17; 28 Kristin (Bender), PA ’20, and Phil Bamon, Comm ’16; 29 Kasey (Scherrer), Nurs ’17, and Jacob Steinhart, Eng ’18; 30 Stephanie (Hoehl), Comm ’17, and Ryan Kaestner, Eng ’18; 31 Nicholas, H Sci ’18, and Alex (Thornden) Schaeffer; 32 Katie (Simet), Arts ’06, and Brian Braunmeir.

Send milestone photos to MARQUETTE.EDU/CLASSNOTES.
1940s

Arts '52; Bus Ad '52; Marion A. (Burger) Cushing, Waite, Eng '51; Richard M. Rotunno, '51; Sue A. (Eggleson) Nurs '50; Gerald W. Van Hyle, Resler, M. Bus Ad '50; Edward Krueger, (David) (Van Ess) Arts '49; Grace L. Eng '49; Norbert M. Eng '49; Janet V. Palmer, Arts '49; Alice M. (Bach) Arts '49; Shirley A. (Atkinson) Arthur J. Eng '49; Edward A., Eng '48; Villard, Arts '48; Dorothy J. (Vidas) Pitterle, Med '48; Jeanne L. (Desmond) Altshul, (Gonyea) Nurs '47; Jacqueline Coakley, Jacquelyne P. Means, Charne, Nurs '40; Gladys (Walleman) Kuhn, Bus Ad '51; Allen B. Arts '51, Law '53; Bernard C. L. Arts '50, Law '55; Richard '50; Melvin J. Eng '49 Woythal, (David) (Sullivan) Jeanne M. (Conrad) Sp '52; Patricia A. Graeber, John A. Goldammer, Bus Ad '56; Eugene C. Nurs '56, Grad '71; William R. Bettinger, Bus Ad '55; Stephen A. Bus Ad '56; Bus Ad '55; John D. J. Schneider, Arts '55; Robert J. Schwaab, Bus Ad '55; John D. Steichen, Bus Ad '55; Stephen A. Bonholtz, Bus Ad '54; Fred J. Bottinger, '54; Gochenich A. (Figgie) Connolly, '54; Nurs '91; Thomas B. Davis, '52; Fred M. (Smessaert) Fleischbad, Nurs '54, Grad '71; William R. Goldammer, Bus Ad '54; Eugene C. Gross, '54; Doris (Kreutzer) Haas, Nurs '54; Robert A. Heinze, '54; James F. Kegel, '54; Melvin M. Mohler, Dent '56; Frances (Pierzchalski) Roginski, '54; Anthony) Rio, '54; Arts '52; Clark B. Vilar, '54; Norman H. Veseyen, '53; Donald J. Voith, '51; William J. Weber, '51; Robert H. Woythal, '51; Robert H. Woythal, '51; Rev. William H. Bowles, Bus Ad '57; Robert J. Casanova, Bus Ad '53; Perry P. Cahn, Dent '57; Joyce A. Dorszynski Leffler, '52; Richard J. Douglas, Bus Ad '57; John H. Gesser, '52; William J. Gross, Arts '52; Julio (Ziegman) Hood, PT '57; Roland F. Kalopa, Eng '57; Marilyn J. (Buschi) Klein, Arts '52, Betty E. (Schaeckle) Krichman, Nurs '57; Mary M. (Wolfe) Little, '57; James B. Litzau, Eng '57; John P. Miller, Bus Ad '57, Law '59; Albert B. Stetley, Bus Ad '57, Catherine A. (Bluem) Smith, '57; William L. Toukhter, Dent '57; Gerald H. Tucher, '57; Judith A. (Johnson) Welsh, '57; Luc D. Aragon, Grad '58, 'Mary J. (Ruff) Arabi, Nurs '58; James A. Balak, Bus Ad '58; Philip B. Boreassa, Dent '58, Patricia L. Cavanaugh, Arts '58; Michael) Dunn, Arts '58, Med '52; Thomas E. Durham, Med '58; Anthony S. Insersoll, '50; William P. Orth, Bus Ad '58; Robert J. Peters, '50; Caesar Prospera, Arts '56; Mary L. Mohan, Portelli, '56; Charles L. Rushman, Eng '56; Mary M. (Grease) Rystad-Smith, '56; Polly (Polk) Strow, Nurs '58; Norbert S. Thiede, Eng '58; James A. Voltmann, Dent '58; Thomas L. Wehrle, Bus Ad '59; Robert D. Carver, Bus Ad '59, Grad '67; Monica C. (Devin) Geller, Sp '59; Lou A. Heiling, Eng '59; Grad '96; George G. Kapronian, Dent '59, Marilyn L. (Monahale) Kuza, Arts '59; James R. Lindeth, Arts '59, Grad '96; Gary W. McFadden, Dent '96; Anthony J. Misasi, '59; Paul A. Pakalunas, Kuza, '59; John T. Stummer, Dent '59; Friedrich R. Weber, Arts '59, Grad '66; Adolph Y. Wilburn, '59

1950s

Ellen P. Kasten (Fabian) Fabel, '55; John W. Krueger, Bus Ad '55; Edward M. Resler, Bus Ad '55; Carol (Grayson) Schmidt, Nurs '56; Gerald W. Van Hyle, '56; Melvin J. Witzke, '56; Alvis L. Weese, '56, Law '55; Richard J. Borgel, '55; Luise P. Eh, '55; Atlas C. Fichtentien, '55; John T. Kowalski, Nurs '55; Allen B. Kohn, Bus Ad '51; Robert J. Mazurek, Bus Ad '51; Sue A. (Eggleson) Petry, Nurs '51; Joseph R. Rotunno, Eng '51; Richard M. Schmidti, Arts '51; William T. Wolfe, Bus Ast, '51; Thomas J. Batistieri, '52; Howard C. Cushing, Bus Ad '52; Marion A. (Burger) Oita, '52; John A. Graher, '52; Law '54, Grad '59; Jeanne M. (Cendag) Meyer, Sp '53; Patricia A. (Sullivan) Mossey, Dent Hy '52; Alfred R. Ranum, Bus Ad '52; James D. Shenkov, '52; Patricia (Flander) Wibbenneyn, Arts '52; Thomas J. Bartal, Est '53; Leonard J. Bolte, Eng '53; Joseph E. Boyle, '53, Law '59; Patrick T. Buckley, Arts '53; Rosemary T. (Veharle) Cummings, '53; Lois D. Cushing, Waite, Eng '51; Richard M. Rotunno, '51; Sue A. (Eggleson) Nurs '50; Gerald W. Van Hyle, Resler, M. Bus Ad '50; Edward Krueger, (David) (Van Ess) Arts '49; Grace L. Eng '49; Norbert M. Eng '49; Janet V. Palmer, Arts '49; Alice M. (Bach) Arts '49; Shirley A. (Atkinson)...
As we welcome home so many of our alumni classes for Reunion Weekend, Marquette’s Bridge to the Future student emergency fund has raised more than $2 million in the last two years. Your support is the difference that helps current students remain at Marquette to receive a world-class, Jesuit education.

“For this has been the hardest year of my dad, and I could not be more grateful to be able to enjoy my time here at Marquette.”

—Arts and Sciences student

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Dent’62; Susan A. (Bockerdorf) Thuber, PT’74; Audrey (Allison) De Munk, Grad’72, Grad’76; Kathleen G. (Schunk) Graham, Dent Hy’62; Peter T. Hansen, Arts’62, Med’67; Judith M. (Frederick) Howland, Arts’v2; Ronald A. King, Bus Ad’v2; James T. Pavilisch, Dent’92; Joanne D. (Ammer) Peters, PT’92; Alice C. (Buck) ModTech’62; Joanne M. (Ramsay) Reinbold, Bus Ad’92; Gordon H. Schleman, Eng’62; James P. Schlo, Sp’62; James J. Brennan, Eng’65, Marilyn R. (Shalkus) Buck’67, PT’67; Rosalie J. (Hoffmann) Caudin, Arts’63; Allain W. Depuy, Eng’63; John W. Dreger, Med’63; Ronald M. DePlassis, Arts’63; John D. Fischer, Eng’63; Richard H. Fleming, Bus Ad’63, J’63, Law’66; Josephine A. (Kalkal) Hermann, Arts’63, Grad'65; Harry F. Hribek, Bus Ad’63, Grad’76, Ray C. Johnston, Arts’63; George P. Nelson, Eng’63; James M. Rowan, Bus Ad’63; Dennis E. Walsh, Arts’63, Med’63, Robert L. Adin, Arts’64; Mary (Evans) Bichler, Nurs’64, Grad’71; Howard C. Crotts Jr., Grad’64; Rev. E. Thomas Dewane, Grad’64, Patricia (Quinlan) Durand, Dent Hy’64, Robert F. Ellerbrack, PT’64; Reginald F. Fuller, Arts’64; James; J. Heinrich, Bus Ad’64; Gerald R. Hinckley, Bus Ad’64; Ronald J. Komarow, Dent’64; Mary Ann (Lympiwski) Koszowski, ModTech’64; Ivan J. Molintho, Arts’64; Dent’69; Stuart E. Parker, Arts’64; Koomas S. Pappas, Dent’64, Cad’74; Haven, Arts’64, Grad’79; John L. Scuff, Bus Ad’64, Margaret M. (Selio) Strabuk, Arts’64; Paula J. (Kosz) Alderson, Nurs’65; Thomas G. Anders, Arts’65, Sarah E. (Dreyer) Bachrud, Arts’65; Sandra A. Birklhausen, Arts’65; Katherine A. Buelow, Arts’65, Grad’73; Dennis F. Chiappetta, Arts’65; Sarah L. (Landry) Greene, Arts’65; Mark A. (Brown) Dresler, Arts’66; Charles H. Franciscouk, Bus Ad’66; John J. Miron, Bus Ad’66, Grad’68; Gordon W. Travis, Arts’66; Keith W. Algozin, Grad’67; Stephen W. Burger, Arts’67; John V. Florence, Arts’67; Robert J. Foerster, Med’67, Diane J. (Conner) Foley, Arts’67; Donald D. Hinkle, Bus Ad’67; Mary M. (Sawicki) Scherwitzer, Arts’67; Raymond J. Sobczak, Grad’67; George E. Warren, Dent’67; Richard T. Ahlswede, Grad’68, ’74; Jean A. (Horneman) Bannasich, Med Tech’68; Daniel F. Boyce, Grad’68; Richard, Firestone, Bus Ad’68, Margaret H. (Will Gann) Arce, ’68; David A. Hayford, Bus Ad’68; George A. Krall, Dent’68; Donald P. Parker, Grad’68, ’74; William K. (Wendling) Sallot, Arts’70; Mark A. Sinetto, Arts’70; Pamela L. (Parke) Bergum, Grad’70; James M. Hoffman, Eng’70; Bernardette D. (Laube) Kolbbeck, Nurs’79, Grad’82; Paul F. Kosiowka, Eng’79.

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For hundreds of Marquette students, economic hardships jeopardize their ability to continue academic dreams. YOU ARE THEIR BRIDGE.

Marquette’s Bridge to the Future student emergency fund has raised more than $2 million in the last two years. Your support is the difference that helps current students remain at Marquette to receive a world-class, Jesuit education.

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THE PROMISE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE.

As we welcome home so many of our alumni classes for Reunion Weekend this summer, consider how your gift to Bridge to the Future can ensure that today’s students also continue to call campus home.
COME HOME TO MARQUETTE!

Alumni Reunion Weekend, June 3-5, 2022

Whether you graduated 5 years ago or 60, we welcome you home to reconnect and reminisce with classmates and to enjoy unforgettable events from parties, campus tours, awards and our Golden Jubilee celebration to Mass and more.

This year, we celebrate class years ending in a 1, 2, 6 or 7, plus our First Reunion (Classes of 2020 and 2021), the Black Alumni Association’s 20th Anniversary and Alumni National Awards.

marquette.edu/reunion