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Framing a friendship is the artful task of this delightful portrait of the late Richard “Dick” and Mary Louise “Weezie” Doermer, which hangs in the entrance of the Doermer Family Center for Health Science Education. The couple’s devotion to USF is one of many remembered treasures since Dick passed away in October.
Heavenly details in this intricate ceiling mural reveal the painstaking work and skill required of the artisans who restored Brookside to its original grandeur. After a two-year capital and renovation project, the mansion now serves as a university administration building. USF opened the doors of the restored Brookside to the community during Christmas in the Castle in December, drawing several thousand visitors inside to marvel at the ornate woodwork, curved staircase and magnificent fireplaces.

A dark period of history took on a ray of hope through the talent and dedication of USF’s ACT I Drama Club, as they presented “The Diary of Anne Frank” in November. Actors reached deeply into themselves to portray the story of the Frank family’s hidden lives in an attic in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam. Underscoring the message were three Holocaust exhibits and a talk-back session with Doris Fogel of the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation, who detailed her experiences in the Shanghai Ghetto internment camp.

Doing God’s business keeps USF 2007 business administration grad Matt Landry busy as senior pastor at First United Methodist Church in Winamac, Ind. At 25, Landry has been commissioned as a pastor at the youngest age possible in the United Methodist Church. Matt felt supported by USF during his journey to the pulpit, and tells stories of his religious growth as a student here, and of the great times he experienced performing as mascot Johnny Cougar during university sporting events.

Bringing the Nativity to life transfixed USF community members as they re-created the wonder of the first reenactment of the Nativity by a group of villagers in Grecchio, Italy, in the 13th century. St. Francis of Assisi led the first reenactment of the humility of Christ’s birth, leading to the display of the crèche in European culture, according to theologians. The live Nativity was part of the annual Christmas at USF celebration, which drew large crowds to the campus.

On the cover USF Director of Retention and Academic Advising Michelle Kuhlhorst, husband Paul and son Isaac, 2, stroll across the Mirror Lake causeway during the Lighting of the Lake and Living Nativity events at Christmas at USF.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

As we begin this new semester, we are grateful for the blessings of the past several months. As you can see, the University of Saint Francis magazine has a new look. I hope you will not only enjoy the vivid imagery but also be inspired, enlightened and entertained by the stories contained herein.

We completed the $6 million restoration of Brookside, formerly known as the Bass Mansion, and can now enjoy its beauty as an administration building and historical touchstone for the campus community.

In support of our values, we opened the Center for Service Engagement to give our students opportunities for projects with nonprofit charities. We also received $2.7 million in federal funds to strengthen our mission to help all our students succeed in their studies.

More students than ever entered our classrooms this fall, including significant growth at our Crown Point campus. The students there are enjoying a newly dedicated teaching facility to accommodate a record enrollment.

The 17th annual CEO Forum drew businesspeople from the tri-state area to hear powerful messages by leaders like Indianapolis Colts president, Bill Polian, and ESPN founder, Bill Rasmussen.

The Act I Drama Club presented the play, “The Diary of Anne Frank.” Exhibits featuring Anne Frank and the Holocaust complemented the play. Business students won prizes totaling $10,000 in the business plan competition.

Advancing to post-season NAIA play for the 11th time, the Cougar football team finished 10-2, including a defeat of No. 5 Lindenwood University. The men’s basketball team received their 2010 NAIA National Champion rings, and entered the season No. 1 in the NAIA pre-season poll. And we couldn’t be more proud that 15 students were named NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

While we celebrated many joys, we also suffered the loss of a good friend and supporter of the university. We were deeply saddened by the death of Mr. Richard Doermer in October. We enjoyed an extraordinary relationship with him, and will miss his ready smile, his deep kindness and his keen business sense.

We ended the semester by welcoming thousands of visitors to campus for Christmas at USF. We hope we were able to inspire many with our focus on the celebration of our Savior’s birth.

Please visit us often to share in the many blessings God provides as we educate students in our Catholic Franciscan values of care and compassion.

Yours in Christ,

Sr. M. Elise Kriss
President

Above photo and photo on next page by Steve Vorderman
reverence the
UNIQUE DIGNITY
of EACH PERSON
"You always have to figure out a way to win the game.”

-BILL POLIAN, INDIANAPOLIS COLTS PRESIDENT
In its 17th year, the reputation of USF’s CEO Forum continues to grow, and this year’s installment disappointed none of the 500 people from the tri-state region gathered in the North Campus Auditorium on Oct. 21.

Joining noted guest speakers from across the state and nation were some famous faces in the world of athletics—Bill Polian, president of the Indianapolis Colts, and Bill Rasmussen, founder of ESPN.

Polian offered some insight into the business savvy leading to the Super Bowl-winning Colts—study other successful companies to learn how to improve (the Colts study the Steelers and the Patriots); and invest in big contracts only on “blue chippers”—team members who are difference-makers (like Peyton Manning) or special leaders (like Gary Brackett).

“We’ve received very positive feedback,” said Mike O’Neil, Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership professor. “Businesspeople noted the outstanding quality of keynote speakers and the faith and humility with which they spoke, and found the input from these regional CEOs extremely valuable.

“The forum moderator, Do It Best CEO Bob Taylor, very effectively presented a series of questions that provided the framework for the elite panel of CEOs to share a variety of approaches about how they grew their organizations. This exchange of ideas enabled attendees to see things from a variety of perspectives, the first step in expanding knowledge, improving management and motivating people.”

Takeaways from the forum included holding fast to dreams; hiring difference-makers; establishing a vision; communicating internally; and evaluating, coaching and encouraging team members with candor.
ACT I Drama Club and director Brad Beauchamp held audiences spellbound for production of "The Diary of Anne Frank" at the North Campus Auditorium on Nov. 5-7 and 12-14.

A touch of hope within the dark story of the hidden lives of the Frank family in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam, and the eventual death of most of the family in internment camps, came to light through the dedication and talent of the USF troupe, Beauchamp said.

"When embarking on this journey, I knew it was most important that we put the focus on Anne's story," he said. "Through history we know what an unspeakably horrific event the Holocaust was, and how many of the characters' lives prematurely and tragically ended. Anne's diary, however, told how they lived. It gives us a snapshot of a girl who was vivacious, funny and observant. Every time we put the spotlight on her, we remember. We remember that in the face of indescribable cruelly and inhumane conditions and treatment, there is this story of hope and optimism."

Jade Haag found playing the role of Anne Frank altered the way she looks at life. "I would have to say it has helped me grow more in my faith and taught me not to sweat the small stuff," she said. "That love, family and friends are truly the most important things in life. It taught me to be grateful."

A talk-back session with Doris Fogel, executive director of the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation, followed the final production.
A survivor of the Shanghai Ghetto internment camp, she reflected upon her experiences, providing an inside view of Holocaust suffering. The cast and community also shared views and information.

Complementing the performances were three exhibitions in Lupke Gallery: “Anne Frank: A History for Today” and “Art and Propaganda in Nazi-Occupied Holland” from New York City’s Anne Frank Center, and a third from the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.

Some viewers e-mailed comments to the USF School of Creative Arts about their experiences at the play and exhibits. “The talented cast of USF students and seasoned community actors brings the audience into Anne’s world with an emotional workout of wonder and hope, fear and cruelty, courage and love. The accompanying exhibits from the Anne Frank Center in New York and the filmed reflections of Fort Wayne Holocaust survivors add more food for thought,” wrote Maureen Grinsfelder.

Romi Plath brought her daughters to the Nov. 4 production. “We were deeply moved by (the) production and performance,” she wrote. “The quality of the exhibitions and the quality of the play surpassed my expectations by leaps and bounds—more of what I would expect in a much larger city on a much larger campus! I don’t believe that my daughters will ever forget the story of Anne Frank now, thanks to our experience at Saint Francis and SOCA.”
From the horrors of war and living on the run in the Burmese jungle to a University of Saint Francis computer graphics degree and a management position with a large sign company in Fort Wayne, “Lat” followed a path to the United States and USF that few could imagine—and still fewer survive.

What he calls “an incredible, amazing trip” began in 1988 at age 7, when his father joined rebel forces against the repressive Burmese (now Myanmar) military government. The move put Lat’s parents and their six young children in grave danger, and they took cover in the jungle, running for their lives for three years.

Faced with illegally entering Thailand or returning to Myanmar and certain death, the family took the first alternative and spent another three years in fear, hiding their Burmese identity.

That’s when the Catholic Church, through World Relief, gave them a sponsorship and a lifeline, helping them to relocate to Minnesota. “We were the biggest family they sponsored,” Lat said, displaying his characteristic shy grin.

Moving from a jungle country to frozen Minnesota represented just one shocking adjustment. His family lacked education of any sort, and spoke broken Burmese. For three months they worked for the church while living with another Burmese family. They were then placed in a rental house, with six months to find paid work.

Through other Burmese immigrants, they heard of opportunities in Fort Wayne, Ind. “They said, ‘Come to Fort Wayne, where there are friends, jobs and transportation,’” he said.

They took the advice, and Lat began his first formal education, with no English, at age 13 as a Geyer Middle School sixth-grader. “It was very hard to start. I survived the jungle as a child, and saw death and war. But the education was almost as hard, because I had to adapt to a new culture,” he said.

An art class that first year opened the door to a new world and means of communication. “My father was a hand-painter in Burma. He was not supported and very poor. But I have carried his blood! He said to be a doctor, engineer or scientist. But I said, ‘No, thanks—I like creativity and drawing!’”

Because of great teachers and mentors, he graduated from South Side High School in just four years. “Mrs. (Jenny) Sanders taught at South Side and also at USF, so she was a great help in breaking down barriers,” he said.

The supportive high school environment gave him a chance to win some art awards and a scholarship to USF. “I wanted to go farther, and the only way to communicate was art. Here I saw technology I never expected to see. There were no TVs or radio in Burma. It was a shock—I didn’t know what world this was,” he said.

At USF, School of Creative Arts Dean Rick Cartwright became a mentor and Lat became a success story. “Rick always supported me and clapped my back—he was a great supporter and motivator. I had 24-hour access to the art department to help overcome my cultural barriers. It was fantastic!”

He earned his USF computer graphics degree in 2005. With a tough journey behind him, he set an ambitious goal. “Right after graduation, I determined to get a job in the real world. I was a first-generation college student, but six months later I got an internship with Creative Sign Resources, and worked my way up to be graphics department manager in a growing company,” he said proudly. “We make every kind of internal and external sign you can think of.”

He’s also proud of his apartment, his wife of three years, and first child due in April.

He attributes his phenomenal success to supporters who took hold and simply would not let him go. “All the teachers from high school through college stressed self-motivation, staying after school to work, asking questions,” he said. “They got me through the hard work and gave me the knowledge and experience I needed to face the real world, all the way to the end.”
span a CONTINENTAL divide. literally.
In 2009, the University of Saint Francis set out to document, preserve, restore and renovate Brookside, formerly the Bass Mansion, for use as an administrative center for the university. Now meticulously restored, Brookside serves as the front door to the university’s Fort Wayne campus.
The transformation of Brookside from the summer home of turn-of-the-century industrialist John H. Bass to its present-day position as historic icon and centerpiece of the University of Saint Francis campus is nothing short of a miraculous journey. The odyssey launched through dreams, generous support and scrupulous skills ended at the door of the renovated mansion in September, when the university unveiled the completed masterpiece in a dedication ceremony.

Like any journey, the trip included some pitfalls and some smooth sailing. Its construction as a seasonal home in 1889, its destruction by fire in 1902, its complete reconstruction in 1903 and its eventual roles as college, library and university administration building punctuate a story as various and colorful as any in history. But its longevity as a symbol of past grace and grandeur, and its community’s fascination with it, remain undiminished.

Created through the thriving fortune of John H. Bass and the Bass Foundry, the mansion functioned as the center of the family’s life until the Great Depression reversed the foundry’s economics. Although John and Laura Bass enjoyed their home until their deaths in 1922 and 1935, respectively, daughter Laura Grace found it necessary to sell the house. In 1944, the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration bought the home and 65 acres south of Spring Street to relocate Saint Francis College from Lafayette, Ind. Over the years, the building served as classroom and residential space, and later as the college library, until the opening of the Lee and Jim Vann Library in 2006.

Recognizing a commitment to respect and maintain the historic integrity of the facility, the university began the fundraising campaign to restore Brookside to its original grandeur. The arduous process of its restoration, a painstaking study in meticulous labor and research, commenced.

The exterior and interior architecture create an enduring impression. In 2010, formal areas were restored to the post-fire construction re-created by architects Wing & Mahurin and interior designers Mandel Brothers. Renovated informal spaces and offices respect the structure’s historic character, yet meet the staff’s needs for contemporary technology, furnishings and lighting. Up-to-date heating and air conditioning, mechanical and electrical systems, including an elevator, and improvements to overall energy efficiency were completed.

Restoration of the interior required specialized artisans in furniture, woven wall coverings, light fixtures, wood flooring, hardware, mosaic flooring, decorative painting, mural restoration and decorative plaster.

As the project drew to a close, the university restored the facility’s original name, Brookside, capturing the character and grandeur of the place remembered fondly by all who resided there. The reclaimed name restores the identity of the splendid structure for all to enjoy in the new millennium.

Brookside is listed as the John H. Bass Mansion with the National Register of Historic Places, a national list of authentically restored historic places. Architecture and Community Heritage (ARCH), Fort Wayne’s historical preservation organization, named Brookside an Archie Award recipient in the fall. Several areas of the building lend themselves to meetings and conferences in an elegant and formal atmosphere.

“The renovation of Brookside has been a true labor of love.”

- USF President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF

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“The renovation of Brookside has been a true labor of love,” said USF President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF, at the dedication. “For all of us, the building is synonymous with the university, and its renovation marks a wonderful milestone in our history.”
Matt Landry planned to head to the big city with his University of Saint Francis degree, to build a reputation in the world of commerce. But the 2007 business administration grad felt called as a USF sophomore to enter God’s business—the ministry—and he listened to that still, small voice. Today, at age 25, he has been commissioned by the United Methodist Church as senior pastor at First United Methodist Church in Winamac, Ind.—the youngest age at which a Methodist pastor can be commissioned.

He felt mentored and supported during his journey to the pulpit, and remembers USF as a place of compassion and acceptance, where diverse religious creeds are embraced and spiritual growth encouraged. That factors into his self-portrait today.

“I call myself a Franciscan Methodist,” he said in his office in the west-central Indiana town. “I embrace those values. My first religious experience on campus was Mass in Trinity Chapel. It became my favorite place, so peaceful and quiet.”
I was standing in front of it, deciding whether to go in, and Sr. Geraldine Hartke walked by. I asked her if it was okay to attend Mass in jeans and a T-shirt. She’s like, ‘Well, sure—it’s hot outside and it’s air conditioned in there.’ She was so warm, embracing and supportive—there was nothing about excluding other denominations.”

The Knox, Ind. native began exploring college choices in his high school senior year, and was hooked on USF in one visit. “As a Methodist, I appreciated the Christian side, which made it a good fit. I thought the campus was great and fell in love with the people,” he said. The choice also brought him to Fort Wayne, where he met his wife on a mission trip to New Orleans.

While he helped other students and explored his spiritual side as a three-year peer minister with Campus Ministry, he also has some stories about his crazier life—as USF mascot Johnny Cougar for four years.

“It was an awesome gig, and a lot of fun to be the Cougar when you have a great team—we won three championships while I was there. One year we came back from Thanksgiving for a game, before the field had artificial turf. It was muddy and snowy, and I took a dive toward a camera and came up full of mud and water,” he recalled.

Sometimes being Johnny Cougar made it hard to keep his head on straight. Literally.

“I was invited by the Fort Wayne Komets hockey team to come to a game for an all-mascot tricycle race on the ice. I got a good push, lost control, hit the deck and the head flew off seven feet in front of me,” he said.

Today, his USF business degree supports his profession well, so he can’t help but think of it as part of God’s plan. “I learned good business principles that are extremely valuable in ministry—public speaking, management, interpersonal communication, budgets—and the business school people were very supportive of what I needed for my future,” he said.

A collection of crosses from different cultures, including Irish, Far Eastern, Hispanic and traditional Catholic, hang on his office wall as outward symbols of his inner devotion to ecumenical principles. “I’ve learned from all the religious disciplines,” he said.

Those principles and the teachings of USF resound in his sermons and prayers, and his congregation takes them seriously. “My service ideas are from USF, and this church has embraced serving others hands-on. We’ve had food drives, stocked food pantries, visited nursing homes—it’s important to me, and now it’s important to them, also.”

With his master’s degree in divinity completed, he keeps his mind open to the future. “I’ll serve wherever I’m called to go. I know I have dedicated my life to this conference, but I’m open to overseas service as well.”

Wherever he goes, he will value his USF experience. “It’s a deeply spiritual place where you can explore who you are fully in a Christian environment. I have been strengthened so much by what I learned there, and by embracing what the Sisters live in their daily lives.”

“I call myself a Franciscan Methodist. I embrace those values.”

-MATT LANDRY, BBA ’07
You can’t beat a USF homecoming—old friends, football, stories, gatherings—it’s like slipping into a well-worn sweatshirt and your favorite sneakers, in the special place where you learned about life’s values.

“Homecoming: Dealin’ Out the Fun 2010” anted up a full house of activities. After Friday’s alumni and athletic awards, the Cougs played their aces for Saturday football, beating Malone in spite of the raw, wet chilly weather.

Tents lined the field, gathering knots of alumni to reconnect with their favorite organizations, while tailgaters jammed the parking lot. Throughout the weekend, alumni athletes battled it out in baseball, basketball, soccer and volleyball. Others enjoyed faculty presentations or learned to cha-cha with alumnus and competitive dancer, Tony Didier.
Men’s soccer alumni game

Tailgating and loading up on some great food is a main Homecoming event.

Families take time out for some football of their own.

Director Jim Shields and son Michael celebrate Homecoming.

Alum Phil Gregg and family enjoy activities.

Nursing Department’s Dr. Sue Chubinski and Megan Weinigard with Johnny.
The university enjoyed large crowds for its traditional Christmas at USF celebration throughout December.

Over 2,700 visitors took advantage of Christmas in the Castle, a self-guided tour of restored Brookside, decked out in holiday trimmings and lights by local florists and decorators. Young and old relished the building's splendor and sumptuous details, the result of a two-year, $6 million fundraising and restoration project.

Adjacent Mirror Lake enhanced the scene's magical quality with Lighting of the Lake, when luminaries dedicated to loved ones, their memories, or their special occasions encircled its shoreline as a shining symbol of Christmas.

With the lake lit as a backdrop, viewers sensed the awe of the first Christmas at a live Nativity scene staged near the Pope John Paul II Center. The event honored a tradition dating to 1223 in Greccio, Italy, in which Francis of Assisi led a group of villagers in replicating the scene of poverty and humility of Christ's birth.

Schouweiler Planetarium turned visitors' views heavenward with "Star of Bethlehem" on three consecutive weekends. Stargazers followed the star of the Wise Men under the Middle East sky in the year 3 B.C. before viewing the wonders of the Fort Wayne evening sky through the facility's technology.

A Christmas concert and art exhibits, a Fair Trade bazaar and breakfast with Saint Nicholas for kids provided lots more to see and do, and a Toys for Tots drive tapped into the central emotion of Christmas—the joy of giving.
Over 2,700 people visited campus in December for Christmas in the Castle, the first public look at the former Bass Mansion after a painstaking restoration project.

Decked out in holiday finery by local florists and interior designers and bearing its original name, Brookside, the stone Richardsonian Romanesque mansion delighted viewers with its ornate woodwork, curved staircase, fireplaces and murals.

All three floors were open for tours, with formal areas such as the grand ballroom, the Napoleonic room, parlor and dining room made even more opulent by the elaborately decorated Christmas trees and decorations.

Senior citizens enjoyed two special discount days for viewing the decorator’s showcase in the historic Brookside facility.

Many visitors remembered the mansion’s former years as the university library, enjoying its remarkable restoration to grace by artisans from across the country and world. The $6 million project earned the university an Archie Award from Architecture and Community Heritage in Fort Wayne.
Three USF fall events focused on the worldwide and local problems of hunger and homelessness.

To starkly illustrate suffering, the School of Creative Arts (SOCA), in partnership with Fort Wayne’s Community Harvest Food Bank, exhibited “Michael Nye: About Hunger & Resilience” from Aug. 28-Sept. 26 in the Weatherhead Gallery of the Mimi and Ian Rolland Center for Art and Visual Communication.

A nationally recognized photojournalist, Nye traveled the U.S., including Fort Wayne, Ind., documenting the struggles of people coping with hunger. Through poignant voices and images, the 50 vignettes revealed the courage and fragility of individuals suffering food insufficiency.

But USF did more than consider hunger—they acted. SOCA organized the annual USF Feeds the Fort in September, leading to the collection of 34,000 food items for delivery to Community Harvest Food Bank, Associated Churches of Fort Wayne and St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen. Homestead High School’s Key Club joined the effort to restock local emergency food supplies in time for the holidays. SOCA also collected over $5,000 to support the food providers.

Providing a visual representation of the struggles of hunger and homelessness, the USF Residence Hall Association sponsored an October “shantytown” event. Students occupied cardboard shanties across from the USF South Campus, using the site to collect food drive donations and coats and blankets for the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission.

“You people are truly living the mission and values of USF,” said USF alumna and Community Harvest director Jane Avery when a truck arrived at North Campus in November to pick up the food.
Dick Doermer remembered as father, friend, patriot, benefactor
University of Saint Francis benefactor Richard “Dick” Doermer built a business presence in northeast Indiana.

When he died on Monday, Oct. 11 at 87, his iconic business persona had been established for decades. His ability to negotiate financing for businesses brought companies and jobs to Fort Wayne, while his philanthropy touched education and public service organizations. His contributions earned him the highest civilian honor bestowed by the Indiana governor’s office—the Sagamore of the Wabash—in 2004.

But beneath the business suit and ready smile beat the heart of a multifaceted man remembered in so many ways by those whose lives he touched—as a father, patriot, benefactor and friend to all. Those close to him have shared their unique connections in an outpouring of gratitude, respect and affection for Dick, whose impact is indelible.

Devoted family man

“Dad and I always had that ‘something’ lucky dads and daughters have—that special bond,” said daughter Kathy Callen of Fort Wayne. “He was always such a gentle man, with a quick smile. When he came home from work, the whole house would light up. We had lots of little traditions when I was little. He always took me with him to the barbershop on Saturdays, and I would sit and watch Wesley cut his hair. Then he would take me for a chocolate soda at Schmidt’s pharmacy.”

Dick’s unique ability to connect with people created a close workplace, Callen said. “When Dad was building the bank, the bank ‘family’ became our family. We would have the Christmas parties and summer employee gatherings at our home in the early years. I knew everyone at the bank. I often went in and spent the day with Dorothy, the switchboard operator, and she would let me answer the phone.”

That loving kindness extended to his grandchildren. “The kids always called him ‘Poppie’ or ‘Pops,’” Callen said. “When my three older children lost their dad at a very early age, Dad really stepped in. He spent increasing amounts of time with the kids and became their role model and mentor. Whenever he said goodbye to one of the boys, he would say ‘Tom (or John), you’re a good man, and good men are hard to find.’ Now we say it all the time. … His advice was sought for every decision my children made, and it was his counsel they listened to and respected. They adored him.”

Empowering employer

Dick’s executive assistant of 34 years, Phyllis Alberts, called herself “blessed” by her years as his co-worker.

“He always gave praise and compliments that made you want to do twice as much, and do it better. He found the positive in every situation and every person. He was gracious and kind. Behind closed doors, bosses can be awful, but in 34 years, I never heard him speak an uncomplimentary word, ever. He never devoted any energy to being unkind.”

His accessibility endeared him to people, she said. “He was a gentleman’s gentleman. He looked, lived and worked the part. He didn’t screen calls, but took time for everyone all the time,” she said.

He never missed an opportunity to make employees feel significant. “It was the little things. He’d be heading out to lunch with associates, and just as he was closing the door behind them, he’d turn and wave at me. That meant a lot,” she said.
Friend to USF

A 36-year USF trustee and major donor to the Doermer Family Center for Health Science Education, Dick maintained a long-term friendship with the university, said USF President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF.

“He was a good friend of the university for many, many years. He was a true philanthropist who saw the goodness in giving back and always told me his number-one concern was the University of Saint Francis.” President Kriss said.

She appreciated his gifts as an adviser. “He was helpful to me in encouraging others to be supportive in many ways. He saw the benefit of the Doermer building to the students and community.”

A portrait of Dick and his wife, “Weezie,” in the Doermer building honors their long friendship with USF, as does the Weezie Doermer Memorial Garden outside of it.

Lover of life

No one knew Dick’s fun spirit and zest for living better than USF Board President Bill Niezer and Trustee Jim Vann.

The Niezers and Doermers were family friends, and Bill grew up with their children. “What made Mr. Doermer such a really good guy was that when you spoke, he made you feel important and relevant,” Bill said. “He showed real interest, and that’s why people responded and why he had such a profound influence. A simple ‘hello’ turned into a conversation that made you feel special.”

The Doermers simply attracted people. “As a kid being around them, you knew they were good people. You were drawn to them.”

“Few people knew how fun he really was,” Vann said. “Although he was a serious business leader, he was delightful and joked a lot about Notre Dame football. It was his alma mater, and one of the great things in his life. When he was in a wheelchair, he’d still take us up for tailgating and a game. When he became quite infirm and was struggling, I remember he was sitting in his wheelchair with a grandson, a Pepsi in one hand and popcorn in the other, just grinning ear to ear watching Notre Dame play. He loved life, and that didn’t always come through, with the serious business person he was.”

Vann still feels his friend’s presence. “We miss him! I’ll still be at my desk between 1 and 2, when I’d usually see him, look at my watch and say, ‘Oh gosh, it’s time to see Dick.’”

Compassionate soldier

Sharing from an interview about her dad’s World War II Navy experience, daughter Kathy revealed his compassion. Assigned to a supply unit during the cleanup of Japan, he helped the family of a local man, a jeweler who had lost nearly everything.

“I snuck rations and clothing to them so they could eat and stay warm,” Dick said in the interview. “As he would leave to go home after work, I would follow him out and put packages in his hand. “I was honored when he invited me to his home. I was so welcomed by his family...When I received my orders to go home, I went to say goodbye to my friend. He pressed a small box in my hand. Several days later I opened the box that contained two semi-precious stones and a small diamond. I was touched beyond words.”

Dick, so are we.

Timeline of Significant Events

1922 Born in Fort Wayne, Ind.
1936 Graduates from South Side High School, Fort Wayne
1944 Graduates from University of Notre Dame in business and joins U.S. Navy
1950 Becomes partner in Rothberg, Gallmeyer, Doermer & Freuchenicht, Fort Wayne
1957 President and CEO, Dime Savings Bank, Fort Wayne
1958 Elected to University of Saint Francis Board of Trustees
1993 Retires from NBD Bancorp, Fort Wayne
To honor their support and friendship, this portrait of Richard “Dick” and Mary Louise “Weezie” Doermer hangs in the entrance to the Doermer Family Center for Health Science Education at the University of Saint Francis.

**IN RICHARD DOERMER’S LIFE**

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Named University of Saint Francis trustee emeritus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Doermer Family MBA Career Development Center opens at Notre Dame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Doermer Family Center for Health Science Education dedicated at University of Saint Francis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Receives Sagamore of the Wabash award from Indiana Gov. Joe Keman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Retires after 28 years on Public Employees’ Retirement Fund Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Richard T. Doermer School of Business and Management Sciences named at Indiana-Purdue, Fort Wayne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Receives United Way’s Bill Latz Award for Leadership</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Only time will reveal the impact of one of the smaller senior classes on the future of University of Saint Francis football, but without doubt head coach Kevin Donley had two seniors in mind after the Cougars’ final game near the end of November. Taylor Vieck is one of them. Of the 11 seniors, the 5-foot-8, 202-pound back from the farmlands around Vincennes, Ind., played with the heart of the last Triple Crown winner, Secretariat.

Two years ago, the Cougars lost Vieck’s talent for the 2008 season after he suffered a thumb ligament injury. Just days into 2009 preseason practice, a torn Achilles tendon again finished his season. After surgery, Vieck worked in rehab to prepare for a twice-postponed final season of USF football.

"Nobody thought we were gonna be here today," Donley told the Cougars after a season-ending 40-21 loss at No. 3 Saint Xavier University. "Nobody thought we were gonna get to postseason, but we did. It’s because of the great senior leadership and character of this football team, and I couldn’t be prouder. ...Hold your head high and be proud to wear that blue."
University of Saint Francis offensive guard Corey Cronk has to update his resume since his selection to the NAIA American Football Coaches Association All-America Team. The 6-foot-1, 315-pound right guard is the first USF offensive lineman selected for this prestigious honor, and is one of just five juniors on the 25-man squad. The Fishers, Ind. native and Hamilton Southeastern High School graduate was named to the Mid-States Football Association (MSFA) Mideast League first team earlier this season as a USF junior. He was an All-MSFA second-team selection in 2008 as a redshirt freshman.

“We are very pleased that Corey has been selected for this honor, and it’s great that he still has another season with us,” USF head coach Kevin Donley said. Cronk was one of six players selected for the honor.

“He was really pumped when I told him. He’s worked hard, gotten stronger, improved his footwork, and he was a more confident player this season. You’re not gonna find a kid that works harder,” said USF offensive line coach Trevor Miller.

Corey is the son of Tim Cronk and Jennifer Kelly and a sociology/criminal enforcement major at USF.

Donley was also thinking about Shaine Tierney, who finished 19-4 as a starting quarterback, shattered the USF record for single-season (.679) and career (.671) pass completion percentage, and missed the conference career mark by a mere two-hundredths of a percent. He too persevered, and kept his focus on the task at hand.

Tierney earned the Cougars’ first NAIA Player of the Week award since 2008, and was the first USF QB to earn the national honor since 2003, after the Cougars’ 33-21 win over Taylor secured their 11th NAIA Football Championship Series berth in the last 12 seasons. Tierney’s 11 rushing TDs in 2010 is second on the USF QB list.

Donley’s Cougars finished 10-2, including a signature 46-38 win at No. 5 Lindenwood University, the 2009 NAIA FCS runner-up. USF was unfazed by the Lions, who entered the game with NAIA’s top scoring offense led by AFCA NAIA All-American quarterback Philip Staback. Though No. 3 Saint Xavier ended the USF season on Nov. 27, 40-21, USF led 21-20 in the third quarter.

Seniors Devon Robinson, Jared Clodfelter, Jordan Wise, Bryan Hardister, Ben Clifford, Elijah Flowers and Kevin Smith also played key Cougar roles.
On Tuesday, Nov. 16, a nearly packed Hutzell Athletic Center paid tribute to the 2010 NAIA Basketball National Champion Cougars in a pregame ceremony unveiling the 2010 NAIA Championship Banner and the presentation of the rings to members of that championship team. The Cougars were the NAIA preseason coaches’ Top 25 No. 1 team after winning the championship last March as the No. 15 seed. The Cougars ended the evening in a 92-89 overtime loss to No. 4 Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Conference coaches selected four Cougars on first-team defense, including sophomore defensive end Anthony Moore (Fort Wayne, Ind./Bishop Luers H.S.), senior interior defensive lineman Bryan Hardister (Indianapolis, Ind./Ben Davis H.S.), senior linebacker Deyron Robinson (Fort Wayne, Ind./Heritage H.S.) and junior linebacker Ross Bauman (Elkhart, Ind./Jimtown H.S.).

On offense, junior right guard Corey Cronk (Fishers, Ind./Hamilton Southeastern H.S.) was a first-team selection for USF. All five players were first-time selections.

USF’s Other Selections Included:

Mideast Second Team Offense
- OL / Jeremy Mayes / JR / Saint Francis (IN) / Avon, Ind. / Avon H.S.
- OL / Wyatt Tuggle / JR / Saint Francis (IN) / Kendallville, Ind. / East Noble H.S.
- RB / Frank Wolfe / JR / Saint Francis (IN) / Avon, Ind. / Avon H.S.

Mideast Second Team Defense
- DB / Jordan Wise / SR / Saint Francis (IN) / Fort Wayne, Ind. / Homestead H.S.

Mideast League Honorable Mention
- WR / Jared Clodfelter / SR / Saint Francis (IN) / Nashville, Tenn. / Hillwood H.S.
- WR / Austin Coleman / SO / Saint Francis (IN) / Fort Wayne, Ind. / Harding H.S.
- LB / Quinn Doan / SO / Saint Francis (IN) / Osceola, Ind. / Penn H.S.
- DB / Antoine Galloway / JR / Saint Francis (IN) / Flint, Mich. / Flint H.S.
- DB / Allen Richardson / SO / Saint Francis (IN) / Indianapolis, Ind. / Cathedral H.S.
- QB / Shaine Tierney / SR / Saint Francis (IN) / Stevensville, Mich. / Lakeshore H.S.
- DB / Derek VandenBosch / JR / Saint Francis (IN) / Muskegon, Mich. / Muskegon Orchard View H.S.
- WB / Taylor Vieck / SR / Saint Francis (IN) / Vincennes, Ind. / Lincoln H.S.

On offense, junior right guard Corey Cronk (Fishers, Ind./Hamilton Southeastern H.S.) was a first-team selection for USF. All five players were first-time selections.

Women’s soccer senior defender/midfielder Katie Christian was named to the NAIA All-America Team (honorable mention) and was a Daktronics NAIA Scholar-Athlete.
University of Saint Francis student-athletes continue to demonstrate excellence on and off the field or court, with 15 named fall NAIA Scholar-Athletes. Head coaches nominated juniors and seniors with minimum grade point averages of 3.10 or higher. USF’s overall GPA for student-athletes was 3.5 for the fall 2010 semester, the highest in the university’s history.

Two-time selections included Ben Clifford, Jared Clodfelter and Bo Frye, football; Katie Christian, women’s soccer; Lynn Altevogt, Wendy Mahlan, Jennifer Wells, women’s cross country; and Alex Bush, men’s cross country.

“We commend these student-athletes for their dedication to excellence in the classroom and athletic competition,” said Director of Athletics Mark Pope.

**FOOTBALL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ben Clifford</td>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Carmel, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Clodfelter</td>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Grad.</td>
<td>Nashville, Tenn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bo Frye</td>
<td>RB</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>St. Marys, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Lehman</td>
<td>DE</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne, Ind.</td>
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**CROSS COUNTRY / WOMEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lynn Altevogt</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Geraghty</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>South Bend, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Mahlan</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Decatur, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Wells</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Orland, Ind.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**CROSS COUNTRY / MEN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alex Bush</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Huntington, Ind.</td>
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</table>

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katie Christian</td>
<td>Def</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angie Carusone</td>
<td>Mid</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Dayton, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Domenick</td>
<td>Def</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Parma, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEN’S SOCCER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nick Morken</td>
<td>GK</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Fort Wayne, Ind.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VOLLEYBALL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Hometown</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abby Schmur</td>
<td>DS</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Boonville, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikki Newton</td>
<td>MB</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Rochelle, Ill.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### COUGAR MEN’S BASKETBALL on the prowl

At this writing, the USF men’s basketball team is rated 13th in the NAIA Top 25, and resumes play in the Mid-Central College Conference on Feb. 3 at No. 23 Marian University in Indianapolis. USF (19-6) is going for the 600th win in the history of the program. A win would also secure the ninth 20-win season for USF since 1994-95. USF has had 12 winning seasons in the last 18.

In the 70-69 win at Spring Arbor University on Jan. 29, DeJovaun Sawyer-Davis scored 15 points for USF and moved into the MCC’s Top 10 career scorers with 2,421 (including his freshman year, 2006-07 at Indiana Wesleyan). He has 1,977 points in two-plus seasons at USF, and with 23 points will become the university’s second 2,000-point career scorer.
At your service: New center linking to community

A new Center for Service Engagement opened in the southwest corner of USF’s Trinity Hall in August to establish an even greater connection between campus and community through service and volunteerism. The center works with community partners, students, clubs and organizations, athletic teams and faculty to provide service opportunities and assist with service learning in the university’s course offerings and co-curricular programs.

The center also provides a valuable resource for area nonprofit organizations. “Having a central point of access to all the university has to offer will be an enormous help to nonprofit organizations, where dedicated volunteers are the lifeblood of our programs,” said Josette Rider, executive director for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The new center director Katrina Boedeker has eagerly embraced her position, bringing her many years of experience in program development, college student and volunteer recruitment, student advising and teaching and community networking to the job.

“We are so pleased with the opening of the center,” said USF President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF. “Service to others is the cornerstone of the University of Saint Francis. It is incorporated in the university’s mission statement and is a focus on the values that shape our campus culture. As such, service is an essential part of the university experience for our students.”

“Service to others is the cornerstone of the University of Saint Francis.”

-USF President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF

The devotion of the cast and crew of USF’s 1970s-era musical, “Godspell,” for their late director, Hal Gunderson, is no act. In fact, they’ve played out a Christmas scene annually since it originated with Hal 35 or so years ago. Alumnus Mike Rorick (’78) was part of that cast, and knows the storyline. “It started when Hal first did ‘Godspell.’ He had a heart attack, and the whole cast and crew went out, got a tree, put it up and decorated it for him for Christmas,” Mike said. That began a tradition that stretches to today. Every year the group put up and decorated the tree for Hal and his wife, Phyllis, and Phyllis continued to host the tree-trimming party for the group after Hal’s passing. This year on Dec. 18, the much-expanded group gathered once again in Phyllis’ home for the traditional party.

“They’re grandparents now,” Phyllis chuckled. “They bring the little ones with them, and it gets a little nuts. It’s wonderful. They bring food and work on the tree. That first year, they just knocked on the door and said, ‘We thought you might need help getting the tree up.’”

Hal’s enduring effect on his students continues to bring up to 20 alumni, many from the “Godspell” production and Jesters program, along with their families, to the Gunderson home to honor the production of a lifetime.

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Customize your University of Saint Francis support with a specialty license plate. No matter where you journey, everyone will know you cheer for USF! Order at myBMV.com or at license branches.

Call 260-399-8051 for more information.
Knowing how to succeed

A University of Saint Francis business team knows the formula for business success, and they picked up a $7,000 first prize in the fourth annual Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership student Business Plan Competition in November to prove it.

IKnow, an interactive children’s book for the iPad, was the brainstorm of sophomore Danny Dellinger and juniors Michael Scher and Bret Arthur, vaulting them to the win over 12 other USF business teams. The prize will pay for its development.

The local business community combined resources to provide $10,000 in prizes for the competition.

“This gives students the tools and experience to create economic opportunities for themselves and the community. This school gets it,” said Sorbashock president and CEO Sam Simonson.

University of Saint Francis business school students Michael Scher, left, of Columbia City, Danny Dellinger of New Haven and Bret Arthur of Peru won the fourth annual Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership Business Plan Competition and a $7,000 first prize.

$2.7 million

USF receives to support students

A total of $2.7 million in federal funding will support USF’s mission to help more students graduate.

In December, the university announced its distinction as the only Indiana college or university to receive $1.5 million in Title III funding. The funds combined with the university’s $1.2 million TRiO grant received in August to target low-income and first-generation students and provide specialized resources leading to their graduation.

Federal Title III programs provide institutions of higher education funds to improve and expand their capacity to serve low-income students. The federal TRiO programs are outreach and student services programs.

“These funds will provide another avenue for the university to offer services to first-generation and low-income students to help them achieve their goal of graduation,” said USF President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF.

“USF always has served a significant number of first-generation and lower income students, most of them from the greater Fort Wayne area,” USF Provost Dr. Rolf Daniel said. “The addition of these specialized, grant-driven advising resources is expected to increase the academic success of these students and help more of them graduate.”

Specifically, the funds will be used to hire new full-time advisers, train faculty advisers to engage students on and off campus to increase their success, establish a new Advising Center, provide education for advisers, and establish a recognition system for advising excellence. They will also provide resources to record and assess data related to the grant to improve institutional decision-making.

“We expect these services to positively affect graduation rates for Title III grant students, because the data will track success and risk factors for them. The additional personnel will be particularly important in the retrieval of data as we build an expanded data bank, where information needed across a number of departments can be retrieved easily,” said Dr. Daniel.
USF breaks enrollment record

As the campus community gathered on the first Wednesday of the fall semester for the annual All-School Opening Convocation, big news was circulating and USF had already made history: more students than ever before had enrolled for fall 2010.

The record 2,350 students exceeded last fall’s enrollment by 7.1 percent, and included a 6 percent larger freshman class and an increase of over 5 percent in the resident student population.

As President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF outlined the accomplishments of the past year and detailed some future plans during her convocation address, she commented on the enrollment rise. “We believe that our record enrollment numbers this fall are indicative of the university’s reputation for academic excellence and dedication to a positive and meaningful experience for all of our students,” she said.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of the Catholic Diocese of South Bend-Fort Wayne celebrated Mass during the ceremony that traditionally signals the commencement of USF’s academic year, and President Kriss followed, announcing major university projects and events slated for 2010-11.

Faculty members hired, rewarded

USF added a number of new faculty and staff members, and some faculty members received appointments or promotions over the fall semester.

Katrina Boedeker was hired as Director of the Center for Service Engagement. Boedeker has extensive experience in college student and volunteer recruitment, student advising and teaching and community networking.

The following faculty members joined the School of Arts and Sciences: Dr. Andrea Geyer, B.S. chemistry, DePauw, Ph.D. inorganic chemistry, University of Michigan; Dr. Matthew Hopf, B.S. University of Saint Francis, D.C. Palmer College of Chiropractic; Michelle Lefevra, B.S. Indiana University, M.S. Indiana State University; Dr. Lewis Pearson, M.S. and Ph.D. in philosophy, Baylor; and Dr. Thomas Schneider, Ph.D. Boston College.

Tellis Young has been hired as director to lead the new USF TRiO Student Support Services program. Supporting Young are instructor-counselors Josiah Brown and Sr. Julie-Marie Oxley and administrative assistant Marsha Perri. The federally funded TRiO Program is designed to provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Former Director of the Graduate School, Jenny Fawbush, was promoted to Director of First Year Experience and Student Academic Support. Fawbush will oversee all academic support areas including the TRiO and Title III grants.

As part of federalTitle III funding to help colleges and universities better serve such students, Director of Retention Michelle Kuhlhorst’s job has expanded to Director of Retention and Academic Advising, and two staff members are in place at the new Center for Academic Advising:

David Streicher, an adviser trainer, formerly a USF graduate admissions counselor; and Phil Maurizi, an adviser mentor and former EPIC program coordinator.

USF Provost Dr. Rolf Daniel announced the appointment of Helen Murray as Dean of the Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership; Dr. Matt Smith as Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Ken Bugajski as Chair of the Department of English and Foreign Languages; and Dr. J. Andrew Prall as Assistant Provost. Dr. Doug Barcalow accepted the position of Director of the Graduate School. He will remain as USF Crown Point liaison and continue to shoulder some distance education responsibilities.

The following faculty members earned promotions or tenure: Dr. John P. Bequette, Dr. Theodore Remington and Dr. J. Andrew Prall are now associate professors and Dr. Matt Smith is a full professor in the Department of English and Foreign Languages; Dr. Barry Jackisch and Dr. David Mullins are associate professors in the Department of History and Social Sciences; Stephanie Tippin is an assistant professor in the Department of Nursing; and Angie Harrell is an assistant professor in the Department of Radiologic Technology. Margaret Blauvelt and Drs. Bugajski, Jackisch, Prall and Remington were granted tenure.
Nussel joins USF alumni and development office

Jay E. Nussel joined the University of Saint Francis this past summer as Executive Director for Development and Alumni Relations.

Nussel brings a high level of expertise and many years of experience to his position. He served as executive director of development for Manchester College in North Manchester, Ind., managing all fundraising activities. Prior to that, he was first vice president at Smith Barney, managing investment professionals and overseeing a multimillion-dollar budget. He earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education at the University of Toledo.

Among his many activities outside work, Nussel participates in the major gifts campaign, Legacy of Faith, for the Fort Wayne-South Bend Catholic Diocese.

“I am so pleased that Jay Nussel has joined the University of Saint Francis. With his strong professional background in education and development, I am confident that he will do wonderful things for the university.”

-VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY RELATIONS DON SCHENKEL

a day on, not a day off

While some schools and businesses took a day off to pay tribute to the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the University of Saint Francis supported its mission to provide community service by taking the opposite approach—a day “on.”

On Monday, Jan. 17, USF commemorated King’s legacy with “Acting on the Dream: A Day On, Not a Day Off,” which gave students, faculty and staff a chance to lead children’s activities and participate in service projects across campus and Fort Wayne.

The university suspended classes as students participated in faculty-led projects. Other on-campus commemorative activities and displays open to the public took place through Feb 4.
In September, USF realized a dream to expand, when contractors broke ground for a new home for the University of Saint Francis Crown Point.

Located on Saint Anthony Medical Center (SAMC) property along U.S. 231 near I-65, the new building supports a partnership established between USF President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF and Sr. Aline Shultz of SAMC in 2004. USF Crown Point began offering nursing and other healthcare-related programs in 2006.

“We are very pleased with the growth of the University of Saint Francis Crown Point campus,” said President Kriss to about 75 people assembled for the groundbreaking ceremony and reception. “We are dedicated to providing our students with every opportunity for their continued success, and we believe that this new facility is a significant and vital step in achieving that goal.”

“It’s been a great opportunity for the university and the hospital to partner by offering courses—from entry level to master’s degrees—in nursing and health administration,” Sr. Aline said. “[The partnership] will expose students to the hospital’s array of medical services and further enhance their learning experience.”

The new facility opened in January with record enrollment.
It’s popular to bandy the term “green campus” about the ranks of higher education today, but it’s not just a catchphrase at the University of Saint Francis—it’s who we are.

At USF, faculty, staff and students put Franciscan values at the center of all they do. And it’s no accident that one of those values, Respect Creation, has led to a third Allen County Waste District Three Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) Award in the past three years for comprehensive recycling efforts. When it comes to the environment, USF means business.

Here are just a few projects led by its Green Committee:

- Electronic Recycling Day for computers, radios and other technology
- Student Eco Club rain garden to filter run-off to Mirror Lake
- Environmental Days and tree plantings in Fort Wayne by the Eco Club
- Recycling centers created in Achatz Hall and Rolland Art Center by the Eco Club
- Built-in recycling stations in Clare Hall and containers in Padua and Bonzel halls
- Recycling containers across campus
- Tour de Francis bike loan program

The committee complements recycling efforts begun by Operations employee Linda Fisher years ago. “Linda was recycling before the official committee started. She did a lot of research and found one company that would take everything, at that time,” said committee member and Operations employee Tom Buuck.

The efforts not only protect the environment but also benefit charities. Prescription bottles collected go to Matthew 25 Health Clinic. Funds from recycled aluminum cans go to Habitat for Humanity, while the can tabs benefit Riley Hospital for Children’s Ronald McDonald House. Proceeds from recycled ink cartridges and toners are donated to HEADS UP Foundation to help Indiana children born with facial defects.

For more information on USF’s Green Campus Initiative, contact Buuck, committee co-chairs Ken Williams and Trina Herber, or recording secretary Deb Bragg. Get involved or learn more at www.sf.edu/sf/green-campus.

"—and God saw that it was good."
-Genesis 1:26
Athletic Hall of Fame recipients

Front, from left: Women’s soccer, Natalie Wiegmann, ‘05; USF President Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF; and softball, Clarice Koepeke, ‘01. Back: Alumni Director Ed Schaab; Athletic Director Mark Pope; football, Adam Sherman, ’05; and Assistant Alumni Director Jessica Swinford.

SFC alumnae elected to OSF leadership

Sisters Ann Kathleen Magiera, ’74, Dorothy Speckhals, ’64 and Marilyn Oliver, ’62 were elected to the leadership of SSFPA (also known as the Provincial Council) on July 2. They will serve in this capacity for the next four years, to provide leadership in the Eastern Province based in Mishawaka, Ind. The sisters are involved in healthcare, education and other ecclesiastical ministries, one of which is the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. The other provinces of this international congregation are in Colorado Springs, Colo., Olpe, Germany and the Philippines. Pictured below is the 2011-2015 leadership group.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mad Ants Basketball

The university will host a Fort Wayne networking event on Saturday, March 19 at a Mad Ants basketball game for alumni, employees of USF, students and family at the Memorial Coliseum. Game time is 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $5 per person. To purchase tickets, call the Alumni Office at 260-399-8037 or e-mail hcrowley@sf.edu.

Love Connections

We hope to publish stories in the e-newsletter and magazine about USF alumni who have married one another. To submit a story, e-mail Jessica Swinford, assistant alumni director, at jswinford@sf.edu or mail to Jessica’s attention at: University of Saint Francis, 2701 Spring St., Fort Wayne, IN 46808. We look forward to reading your stories and sharing them with the rest of our USF family.
USF Trustee Keith Busse hosted a black tie Christmas party for associate- and partner-level donors and other friends of the university in December.

Set in the gracious building their gifts helped to restore, the event gave history center stage, with some guests wearing vintage formalwear to complement the setting in the former Bass family mansion. Attendees enjoyed horse-drawn carriage rides from the North Campus up the circular drive to Brookside’s front door, providing them stunning views of the home, lit for Christmas at the center of the snow-mantled campus on Mirror Lake.

Approximately 125 supporters listened and danced to music by the USF Jazz Combo in the ballroom, and enjoyed food and beverages in the parlor and dining room and desserts on the third floor.

Top left: Guests enjoy carriage rides to and from the Brookside gala; top center: Jim Marcuccilli, Joe Dorko and Dr. Rudy Kachmann converse; top right: Host Keith Busse and Debbie Stier enjoy the evening; bottom left: Sr. Jennifer Henry, Sr. Elise Kriss, Sr. Clare Reuille, Sr. Margaret Mary Mitchel and Sr. Marilyn Oliver stand with the carriage at Brookside; Bottom center: Brookside’s ballroom provided an elegant setting for dancing.

To impact USF students’ lives to an even greater degree, new guidelines have been established for creating endowed scholarships. The guidelines do not affect established scholarships. The following will apply to endowed scholarships created after July 1, 2011:

- New minimum funding standard of $25,000
- New time period of 60 months to reach minimum

Although new endowed scholarships have a higher minimum, donors will have a longer time period to reach that minimum. Therefore, the new guidelines benefit both donors and students: the donor’s wishes are fulfilled with greater effect and paid on a less aggressive timeline, while students receive more financial aid.

Contact Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations Jay Nussel at jnussel@sf.edu or 260-399-8031 for more information on establishing endowed scholarships to directly benefit students.
1930s:
Ruth Pickett (DP ’37), worked 14 years in eye, ear, nose and throat office and about 25 years in labor and delivery at Lutheran Hospital.

1940s:
Mary (Pickett) Smith (DP ’41), 1st Lt. Army Nurse, served in Europe. She is married with six children, five boys and one girl. After the army, she served as an industrial nurse. * Josephine Miller (DP ’42), has four children who all graduated from college. They range in age from 58-64. * Wilma (Hall) Embree (DP ’44), is a widow with two children who are both retired. She has five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She worked until the age of 83. * Betty Pearson (ASN ’46), has 15 great-grandchildren. * Shirley (Monce) O’Brien (DP ’47) has seven children, 21 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She is also expecting to add twins to the list of great-grandchildren!

1950s:
Dorothy Fitzgerald (BS ’50) is retired and has a new great-granddaughter whom she expects to be a future Saint Francis student. * Betty (Luegring) Wickensheimer (DP ’50), retired from active nursing. She volunteers five days a week at St. Andrew’s Soup Kitchen. * Eloise Freeman (DP ’53) welcomed her seventh grandchild on Dec. 10. * Nancy (Haffner) Boylan (BS ’54), is a longtime volunteer at Hospice Home, Community Harvest Food Bank and the Genealogy Department of Allen County Public Library. * Mary Patrick (BS ’54) writes “Life Memories” for clients at the Senior Day Care Center at her church. She records the chronological memories of that particular senior, and then returns it to the client. * Norinne Cornwell (DP ’55), was widowed in 2008 and enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren. * Susan (Hodel) Price (DP ’56), retired after 40 years. * Sr. JoEllen Scheetz (BA ’56), former president of Saint Francis College, visited USF on Aug. 4. She especially enjoyed viewing the renovated and restored Brookside (formerly known as the Bass Mansion). Sr. JoEllen was president of Saint Francis College from 1970-1993. She presently resides at Our Lady of the Angels Convent in Mishawaka, Ind. * Jane Geske (DP ’57), volunteer parish nurse at the Lutheran Church of St. Luke. * Judith (Eltzroth) Naegle (RN ’59) has been married to her husband, Jay, for 51 years. They have three children, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandson. She does hospital volunteering and church work. She has been retired for 22 years.

1960s:
Nancy (Roesti) Latchaw (DP ’60) recently celebrated her 50th nurses’ reunion and her 50th wedding anniversary. * Janice (Hartman) Gillig (BSE ’61, MSE ’67) taught at St. Jude until she married Bill Gillig and had four children. She now has 13 grandchildren. She has been married for 47 years. She continues to be an active volunteer. * Avon Crismore (BA ’65, MSEE ’68) works full time as a writing teacher at IPFW. She is 80 years old. * Kegham Tazian (BA ’65, MS ’67) has been an art professor at Oakland Community College since 1967. * Mary (Louease) Lehman (BSE ’66) retired after sailing 100,000 miles. * Patty Martone (MSEE ’66) published a column titled “Dedication of Old Saint Francis Library Lovely Return to Early ’60s” in the News-Sentinel at the end of September. * Jack Guthrie (MSEE ’68), has five of his immediate family now teaching in Christian schools. * Barb Sieminski (MSEE ’71), is a freelance writer and photographer for several magazines and newspapers.

1970s:
Don Balka (MS ’71) is president-elect for the School of Science and Mathematics Association Board of Directors. Don has co-authored the following books: Mathematics for All, Macmillian Elementary Mathematics Series K-5; A Guide to Mathematics Coaching, Corwin Press, 2009; A Guide to Mathematics Leadership, Corwin Press, 2009; Overcoming Resistance to Change, 2010; and 2D & 3D Geometry with Interlocking Shapes, Didax, 2010. Don has authored the following books: Mathematics with Unifix Cubes Grade K, Didax, 2010; Mathematics with Unifix Cubes Grade 1, Didax, 2010; and Mathematics with Unifix Cubes Grade 2, Didax, 2010. * Sr. Elaine Brothers (BS ’71, MS ’77) joined the Sisters of St. Francis Health Services (SSFHS) in Mishawaka, Ind. at the end of August as their corporate vice president of education. She has a Ph.D. in higher education from St. Louis University, and did post-graduate work at Xavier University in Cincinnati. She will be working with the education departments in all of the SSFHS hospitals. * Brenda Lou Baker (BA ’73), has one daughter. She was a tech illustrator for 12 years and a self-proprietor for 30 years. She is a member at the Co-op Art Gallery; Art Sales National and International. * Debra (Walker) Ainslie (BA ’74) retired to Arizona after 35 years of social services management, counseling and recreation. * Jane (Westrick) Chapman (DP ’74), has two daughters and one grandson. She also makes children’s wooden puzzles. * Myrtle Cook (MSEE ’74) retired in 2008 after working 69 years in banking with National Bank of Montpelier, Ohio.
1980s:

Dr. Joan Karbach (BA ’83) retired in 2006 and was honored as professor emeritus from Tri-State University.

* Mary (Zehringer) Whitman (BS ’86) was honored on Nov. 11 as Outstanding School Counselor of the year for the state of Colorado. Mary is a 1996 master of school counseling graduate of the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Colo. She resides in Colorado Springs with her children, Isaac and Isabelle, and husband Dean Whitman, retired USF Operations staff member.

1990s:

Ann Helmke (BSW ’90) works with homeless families at Vincent Village. She is an assessment team specialist for Parkview Behavioral Health. * Mary Ann (Matvev) Smith (MSE ’91) is retired from teaching. She is caring for her husband, doing crafts and babysitting twin granddaughters one day a week. * Suzie (Wisniewski) Ebbing (ASN ’91) has been hired as executive director of the Lamplight Inn of Fort Wayne. The Lamplight Inn facility, previously known as the Holiday Inn downtown, is a 14-story building and houses a170-bed independent living/assisted living community.

* Michael Gerstbauer (BA ’92) now has five children from the ages of 1 to 13. He owns a handyman service business, and he is a farmer growing corn and soybeans on 1,800 acres.

* Carl Sabo (ASN ’93) obtained a record deal with Emerald Records. * The daughter of Julie Foust-Swihart (BSN ’93), Libby Swihart, runs barrels at the Marion County Fair. Libby took first place in showmanship, pleasure driving, reinmanship and production class. Libby is riding her Arabian, Kizmit, and took second place with a 23-second barrel run.

* Karla Gilson (ASN ’94) works at Lutheran Hospital and has three children. * Barbara Burkh (ASN ’95) recently earned a doctorate in the science of transpersonal psychology and complementary and alternative medical therapies from Delphi University.

* Scott Flanagan (MBA ’97) was recently promoted from vice president for planning and enrollment to executive vice president after 12 years at Edgewood College. Scott also completed his Ed.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2009.

* Sharon Smith (BS ’97, MS ’08) was named East Allen County Schools Teacher of the Year for 2010. She is the first special education teacher to win for the district.

* Traci (Carey) Kerr (BS ’98) and husband Jim welcomed their second child, Jessilyn Genevieve Kerr, on July 16. She weighed 9 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 inches long. She joins big brother, Ethan.

* Jodie Dean (BLS ’99) has opened her own business, OurSpace LLC. It is a co-working space or shared workspace, located at 825 S. Barr St. in Fort Wayne. OurSpace operates like a gym, but instead of fitness equipment, the space is filled with desks, tables, chairs, coffee and people. Instead of a lease, co-workers obtain a membership that provides them with access to a diverse group of individuals who are willing to be collaborative; work desks and tables, on a day-to-day or permanent basis; conference rooms for internal/external meetings and presentations; high-speed Internet connections (and Wi-Fi); professional and personal seminars; and a mailing address.

* James Jones (BBA ’74), retired early in October 2002.

* John Reinoehl (MSE ’74) received the Leepoxy Award for Teaching Excellence at University of Saint Francis for the 2009-10 school year. * Donald Hanna (MBA ’76) retired in 1989. * Barbara Johnson (MA ’76) retired in 1989.

* Barbara Johnson (MA ’76) retired from South Adams High School in 1994 after 24 and a half years of teaching art and photography. * Sharla (Stoller) Schultz (DP ’78) is a clinical program instructor at Ivy Tech. She teaches the LPN and RN students Level 1 nursing care and psych rotation. Her youngest daughter will be married May 14.

* Sandi (Jackson) Snyder (BA ’78) retired in June and moved to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Sandy taught English for 32 years and 31 of those years in Archbold Area Schools in Archbold, Ohio.
alumni news

class notes, cont.

2000s:

Christine (Brown) Newmark (BS ’00) and husband Neil welcomed their third child, Andrew Robert Newmark, on June 30. Andrew weighed 9 pounds, 14 ounces and was 22 inches long. He joins siblings Caitlyn and William.

Melissa (New) Bolyn (BS ’01) and Ryan Bolyn (BS ’03) welcomed their second son, Reid Taylor Bolyn on Dec. 16. He weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. He joins big brother, Brody, 5, at home.

Evelyn Yack married Kevin Duff on Aug. 14, 2009. * Corrie (Hixson) Silcox (BS ’02, BLS ’03) was married in February 2010 to John Silcox. She is self-employed as a public health preparedness consultant. * Tony Yannitti (BBA ’03) and wife Julie welcomed the birth of their first child, Nick Yack (BBA ’03, MBA ’06). Nick was born prematurely at 26 weeks, weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and was 18 3/4 inches long. He joins big sister, Taylor. * Johnny Hill (BS ’03) owns J&L Consulting Services, d.b.a. Environmental and Public Health Consultants. * TJ Messerschmitt (BLS ’04) is the general manager of Restaurant Relish and is opening a new restaurant in Colorado in 2011. * Nick Yack (BBA ’03, MBA ’06) and Jennifer (Wilkinson) Yack (BS ’05, ASN ’08) welcomed daughter Katelyn Elizabeth Yack on Oct. 6. Katelyn weighed 9 pounds, 8 ounces and was 23 inches long. He joins big sister, Taylor.

Evelyn’s sister, Jennifer (Wilkinson) Yack (BS ’05, ASN ’08) married Adam Miller on Aug. 1, 2009. They welcomed their first child, Dylan John Miller on June 28. He weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long.

Sarah (Hudon) Miller (BS ’03) married Adam Miller on Aug. 1, 2009. They welcomed their first child, Dylan John Miller on June 28. He weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long.

Brad Schulte (BSE ’01) and wife Julie welcomed the birth of their first child, Evelyn. * Katie (Parker) Larkins (BS ’02) and husband Troy welcomed their second child, Benjamin Alan Larkins on Aug. 9. He weighed 9 pounds, 8 ounces and was 23 inches long. He joins big sister, Taylor.

Tendra (Kear) Duff (BA ’01) married Kevin Duff on Aug. 14, 2009. * Nick Yack (BBA ’03, MBA ’06) was promoted to assistant vice president at PNC Bank.

Corrie (Hixson) Silcox (AS ’02, BLS ’03) was married in February 2010 to John Silcox. She is self-employed as a public health preparedness consultant. * Casey Shafer (BA ’02) designed the T-shirt for the 2010 Galloping Gobbler Four Mile run. There were more than 2,000 runners who participated in the Thanksgiving run.

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Nick Yack (BBA ’03, MBA ’06) was promoted to assistant vice president at PNC Bank. * Tony Yannitti (BBA ’03) and his wife, Mandie, welcomed the birth of their son, Carmine Anthony Yannitti, on April 9. He was born prematurely at 26 weeks, weighed 13.2 ounces and measured 9.75 inches long (yes, that does say ounces, not pounds). Carmine spent 103 days in the newborn intensive care unit at Dayton Children’s Hospital, and his parents kept the faith that their son would be OK.

He came home to Tony and Mandie on July 19, weighing 5 pounds, 1 ounces. He is the smallest surviving child to ever be treated at Dayton Children’s Hospital. “He is truly a miracle, and we are so grateful to have him in our lives and home with us now,” Tony said. Tony gave us a recent status on Carmine’s six-month checkup, and he was 9 pounds, 9 ounces. Everyone is doing great.

Joshua Hapner (BS ’05) received a master’s from Ball State in 2010. * Hillary Smith (BS ’06) first worked as an auditor for Ernst and Young in Toledo, Ohio. She was married in 2007 and worked for Mettler Toledo in Columbus, Ohio doing international consultation and financial planning. In 2008 she passed all CPA exams in Ohio.

Kara Pearson (BLS ’07) received her master’s degree in occupational therapy. Kara currently works as an occupational therapist in Carmel, Ind. * Melissa (Baker) Rorick (BSW ’06) married in 2010. * Angie (Knerr) Winkel (BSW ’06) was married on the island of Providenciales, Turks and Caicos on Jan. 21. Angie works at Walgreen’s as an executive assistant manager. She recently completed her manager training through Walgreen’s. She and her husband reside in South Bend, Ind.

Brad Ferrier (BA ’04) was accepted into the graduate program at the University of Iowa School of Information Science.

Ashlee (McClure) Haney (BS ’07, BS ’09) gave birth to Emma Noel on May 7. The baby weighed 5 pounds, 12 ounces and was 19 inches long. She is joined by big sister, Addison.

Matt Landry (BSW ’07) graduated from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio with a master’s in divinity. He was commissioned by the Indiana Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church for full-time ministry. He is pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Winamac, Ind.

Cara Greulich (BBA ’08) has been hired as marketing project manager at Whitley County Economic Development Corp.

Aubrey (Pickering) Cox (BSN ’08) is currently working in a medical surgical unit at Lutheran Hospital. She got married in September, 2009 and is expecting her first child in August, 2011.

Marissa Sciranka (BSN ’09) is an RN in the Family Birthing Center at Parkview Hospital. She is getting married on Sept. 10, 2011. * Marissa Thal (AS ’09) currently works at Lutheran Orthopedics Hospital as a Surgical Technologist.

Patrick O’Neil (BBA ’09) was selected to attend the officer candidate school for the U.S. Marine Corps in Quantico, Va.

Nick Fowler (BBA ’09) has graduated from Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning in Columbus, Ga., and was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Fowler is a military intelligence officer. * Grant Hilliard (BBA ’09) has been promoted to sales manager at Thompson International.

Jamie McGrath (MBA ’09) and husband Joe welcomed the birth of their third son, James Robert McGrath, on Dec. 29, 2010. James weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 22 inches long.
2010s:

Anna Cunningham (BSN ’10) got a new job at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. • Ashley Everhart (BSE ’10) got a job as a high school special education teacher in DeKalb County. • Cassie (Yardle) Ashenfelter (BSE ’10) married in summer 2010. • Charles Jones (BSN ’10) works as an RN at Parkview Hospital. • Dana O’Dell (BSW ’10) began the master’s program in social work at University of Southern California in January. • Janessa Egolf (AS ’10) works part-time at Health Now Urgent Care as an X-ray technician. She is also a sixth grade girl’s basketball coach at Churubusco Middle School. • Kelsey Wolff (BSN ’11) will be welcoming a new baby in April, 2011. • Regina Strack (ASN ’10) just got a new job at Lutheran Hospital Cardiac Filamentary. • Sara Glassley (BSN ’10) works at Lutheran Hospital. She is continuing to work toward her master’s degree as a family nurse practitioner at University of Saint Francis.
After eight years as Vice President for Academic Affairs at Oblate School of Theology (OST) in San Antonio, Texas, Sr. Elaine Brothers, BSE 1971 and MSE 1977, has returned to Mishawaka, chilly winters, and the location of the Mother House where she first pronounced vows and began college.

She’s traveled a long road to reach this place and the new position that occasioned the move: Corporate Vice President of Education for Franciscan Alliance, the Mishawaka-based healthcare system that operates 13 hospitals in Indiana and Illinois.

Always headed toward religious life, she entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration order at the Mishawaka convent and began taking education courses at Saint Francis College at the Mother House in 1963, directly after high school. Eventually, course work for her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education took her to Saint Francis College in Fort Wayne, launching the graduate into an 18-year career as a teacher and administrator for Catholic grade schools in Indiana and Missouri.

She began postgraduate work at Xavier University in Cincinnati in 1977, and later completed a doctorate in higher education at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Mo. in 1992. She worked for the Sisters of Saint Francis in Mishawaka as director of education for four years before accepting a position as Vice President for Academic Affairs at USF Fort Wayne in 1991, serving nine years.

After spending the first six months of 2002 working for the Sisters of St. Francis Health Services, now the Franciscan Alliance, in Mishawaka, she took a sabbatical in San Antonio, setting in motion the plan for the next eight years of her life. “While I was there, the dean of the school announced her resignation, and the president asked me if I would consider the job,” she said.

She took it, loving the work and weather in San Antonio. OST offers master’s and doctoral degrees in theology. The continuing education program brought known theologians to the campus.

With mixed emotions about leaving the climate, culture and graduate education, she realized it was time to return north, and welcomed the opportunity to accept her new corporate calling with the Franciscan Alliance, where she has plenty to do.

She works with the corporation’s education directors to provide required annual employee training, leadership training and standardization of education endeavors. She helps coordinate leadership programs like the four-day Leadership Essentials to help employees become better leaders and managers. When possible, she welcomes opportunities to build relationships between the healthcare system and universities, including USF.
Ever notice how much you receive when you give of your time, talent or treasure? Anyone wishing to leave a lasting legacy can take advantage of such a positive reciprocal relationship through a charitable gift annuity (CGA) with the University of Saint Francis.

A CGA can be created from gifts of cash or securities. Such gifts provide permanent impact by benefitting the University of Saint Francis, the educator of our next generation of leaders. But how do they also help you?

- **Tax advantages**
- **Income for life—determined by age at time of gift**
- **Income partially tax-free**
- **Backed by full faith and credit of USF, thus a very secure income**
- **Remainder at your death is your gift to the University of Saint Francis**

Other benefits which may be attained through your CGA to the University of Saint Francis include:

- **Income you can’t outlive.** Gift annuities are payable in a fixed amount for life to one or two people.
- **Eliminating management burdens.** Giving stock to create the CGA relieves you of the burden of managing investments or concerns you may have about your or your spouse’s ability to manage investments later on.
- **Lasting philanthropic impact.** The financial and tax benefits combine to open the door to achieving your vision and goals for leaving a lasting legacy.

If the CGA sounds attractive to you, please consult with your tax/financial advisers. The University of Saint Francis will gladly assist you in this decision.

To discuss creating a CGA, contact:

Sr. Marilyn Oliver  
Director of Planned Giving  
260-399-8036  
moliver@sf.edu
As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”

-1 Peter 4:10

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A day on, not a day off. USF pays tribute to MLK. Article on page 33.

For more information on USF events, visit www.sf.edu/alumni.