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All things scientific are served up by Dr. Mike Bechill, front, and a variety of Achatz accomplices as part of a new Science Saturday program begun this fall. The offering drew great introductory numbers for students interested in the processes that make our world so fascinating. Dr. Matt Hopf of the Cadaver Lab and other faculty members are also involved.

USF Radiology program director Donna Lyke watches students using her department’s new state-of-the-art radiography equipment. Students now enjoy the benefits of learning from both film and digital technology, giving them a greater scope of learning as they advance in their studies. The USF program has experienced a 100 percent first-time pass rate for its graduates for the past 20 years.

Robots Dustee and Darlene give science information in small segments between children’s science programs airing on PBS channel 39 in Fort Wayne. SOCA animation students Alyssa Swearingen and Jennifer McKibben created the graphics and animation after a request for animation work by the local public TV station from USF animation professor Matt White.

Frozen into memory will be the free screening of the Disney smash hit “Frozen” in the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center this fall. Many dressed as movie characters, while others enjoyed a sing-along and questions and answers with visiting co-director, Chris Buck. A partnership with Fort Wayne Cinema Center made the special event possible.

The cover photo from 1946 shows students arriving for classes at Saint Francis College in Fort Wayne. Today’s University of Saint Francis has many more students, of course—and fashions have obviously changed. Yet the school’s Franciscan Values and dedication to its students remain the same, as USF continues to attract those eager to learn, become leaders and serve.
Dear alumni and friends,

We embark now on a new year, and an exceptionally important one, as the University of Saint Francis celebrates 125 years in higher education in 2015. The university has a number of activities planned to mark special moments in our institution’s long history, and I hope you will take advantage of these opportunities to learn of our rich educational past and celebrate it with us.

We have much to be thankful for since the first courageous sisters crossed the Atlantic and opened our school in 1890 in Lafayette, Ind., as a teacher training school for the Sisters. The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration have never swerved from their initial goals—to teach and to heal the children of God.

Since moving the college to the Fort Wayne Bass estate in 1944, we have evolved into a comprehensive university with education, leadership and service opportunities for people from all walks of life. In our history, the university has conferred the city’s first master degree and inaugurated its only college football team. Currently, we are enjoying robust enrollment both in Fort Wayne and in our growing Crown Point location. Washington Monthly recently ranked the University of Saint Francis third nationally in community service.

As we look ahead in this landmark year, the university continues to change and evolve to better serve our students. Our Downtown Campus plans have expanded to include the Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership, which is offering a new Lilly Endowment-funded Risk Management and Insurance program to equip USF students to serve the unique needs of the insurance industry. As you will learn in this edition, northeast Indiana is a wonderful fit for this type of graduate, due to the businesses and insurers located here.

USF programs continue to rank among the top in the nation, as evidenced by our 100 percent first-time pass rate for numerous programs in the School of Health Sciences, and the achievements and job placements for the School of Creative Arts graduates and business school EPIC graduates. Our School of Liberal Arts trains and engages students in far-reaching ways, as USF’s Dr. Mike Bechill relates in his own Saint Francis magazine story. Sadly, this past semester the university mourned the passing of Sister JoEllen Scheetz, who served us as president for 23 years, but who always identified herself most strongly as a teacher.

In 2015, the university will announce additional degree offerings including Criminology and Criminal Justice, Sociology and Social Justice, Dietetics and a Master of Arts in Teaching. The new programs are intended to expand on the university’s strengths in liberal arts, healthcare and education.

We appreciate your support more than ever in this anniversary year. Through your faithful prayers, volunteerism, and financial assistance, the University of Saint Francis looks forward to another 125 years as an institution that our students, faculty, staff and alumni consider their home. We thank you for being a part of our heritage and know you will continue to play a role in our bright future.

In God’s love,

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Always a Teacher

Sister JoEllen Scheetz, former Saint Francis College president, remembered
These descriptors and more apply to USF’s Sister JoEllen Scheetz, who served as president of Saint Francis College for 23 years. Sister JoEllen passed from this world on Tuesday, Sept. 16 at Our Lady of Angels Convent in Mishawaka, leaving a hole in the hearts of those who knew and loved her—but also an indelible legacy to all whose lives were touched by hers.

Sister JoEllen was born Mary Helen to Joseph and Ellen (Fitzgerald) Scheetz in Lafayette, Indiana on May 20, 1926. She graduated from St. Francis High School in Lafayette and, as one of 20 resident female students, began studies at Saint Francis College the year the school was moved to Fort Wayne. During the summers, either she or her sister played the organ every day at their parish church. Following her family’s tradition in religious vocation, she entered the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in 1946, receiving the habit and the name of Sister JoEllen in 1947. She professed her final vows in 1954.

She earned a B.A. in education from Saint Francis College in 1956, an M.A. in English from the University of Notre Dame in 1964 and a doctorate in educational administration from the University of Michigan in 1970. She taught for 18 years in various Provincial schools, including Bishop Luers High School, and devoted 34 years to higher education, teaching in the English department of Saint Francis College and serving as academic dean for one year and college president for 23 years. She moved to Our Lady of Angels Convent in 2008, where she chronicled the history of her Province.

Sister Carol Meyers, USF chemistry professor, taught with Sister JoEllen and shared a close friendship with her. She recalled Sister JoEllen’s pursuit of lifelong learning and how she challenged her own boundaries.

“I remember when she was president, she went to Cleveland University to take a writing course. It was the first time she’d used a computer, a laptop with a modem attached to it. It was courageous of her.

“When she finished her University of Michigan dissertation, she had to defend it at noon on a certain date. I went with her. We had car trouble and were in a panic. When we got there, we had to find the building, and drove through a pedestrian plaza. She walked through the door and it locked behind her. She was one minute early.”

Alumnus Steven Doepker remembers Sister JoEllen from his time as a student. “Sister JoEllen was an English teacher the first year I was at Saint Francis. She left in 1965 to get her doctorate and returned when I was in graduate school. She was a wonderful person who always had time to talk, and she helped inspire the Franciscan spirit at the campus. I think of her often, especially when I visit USF.”

“When she was retiring from the university,” said Dr. J. Andrew Prall, Vice President for Academic Affairs at USF, “she was very generous to me and others in passing on her teaching materials, her lesson plans and research, all in impeccable handwriting. She valued teaching and really wanted us to carry on her legacy for the students.”

Sister JoEllen passed away peacefully in the presence of Sister Jennifer Henry, Superior at St. Francis Convent, Mishawaka. “I was praying with her from 5 to 6 a.m.,” Sister Jennifer recalled. “In the Manual of Prayers, I had just gotten to the Prayer to St. Joseph for a Happy Death, when she died. I finished the short prayer, sang the Alleluia Chorus for her, and then called Sister Madonna. It was a beautiful moment.”

All who knew Sister JoEllen will cherish her in memory. Even more, her influence will continue in the students she taught—a fitting legacy since, as Dr. Prall noted, “She always thought of herself as a teacher first.”

USF and Indiana Landmarks recently presented a storyteller performance of “Sandstone and Scholars: Memorable Stories of Brookside Mansion,” in which Sister JoEllen’s life plays a major role. The performance is available at YouTube.com/USFFW. Check WFWA.org for the PBS broadcast schedule.
With Cougar spirit running high, the Homecoming festivities rocked. The new Block Party and Nursing alumni dessert tent took place in the warmth and comfort of the Student Center.

With Homecoming Saturday dawning blustery, drizzly and downright cold, the new Block Party and Nursing Alumni dessert tent moved inside the warm, inviting Student Center, which rocked the merriment.

As the band “Finding Friday” provided musical energy, the energy of alumni, USF students, friends and families gathered on campus Oct. 4 elevated to an equal level, as they celebrated their school and many friendships. Activity was brisk at the buffet and offerings from Rig-A-Tony’s food truck, with celebrants taking advantage of booths and café tables to eat, chat and enjoy the music.

Downstairs buzzed with free popcorn and Nursing Alumni Association-sponsored apple crisp and ice cream, warm cider and hot chocolate.
A face-painting table by the Student Social Work Club decorated students with whiskers and Cougar-blue pawprints as they roamed the campus and Saturday night game.

**Most of the alumni athletic games competed, including flag football, men’s soccer and baseball alumni versus the USF baseball team. Women’s and men’s basketball heated up Hutzell gymnasium.**

In defiance of the gusts and drizzle, the tailgate area adjacent to D’Arcy stadium bustled with impromptu football games with little ones, bean bag games and a sea of tents to ward off the elements. The smell of charcoal rose over the chill.

Although the players suffered a loss in the cold weather later that night, fans nonetheless braved the inclement weather to support their NAIA top-25-ranked Cougars to close out the weekend.

“I love homecoming weekend. Alumni come back to reunite and many traveled to attend Homecoming weekend even with the weather less than ideal. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces and the opportunity to meet new alumni. I am looking forward to next year.”

- Dr. Matthew Smith  
Vice President of Institutional Advancement
One needn’t have looked farther than the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center to see excited kids on Oct. 4. Children in Elsa and Anna costumes, greeted by characters from Disney’s blockbuster hit, “Frozen,” thoroughly enjoyed a free screening of the film’s sing-along version as part of “A Weekend with Chris Buck,” in partnership with Fort Wayne Cinema Center.

“It was incredible hearing all those kids, singing at the top of their voices,” said USF’s School of Creative Arts Dean, Rick Cartwright, casting an eye over the packed PAC.

“Frozen” co-director Chris Buck brought the film and his unique, inside view on the making of it to the center for two presentations and to a brunch for Cinema Center members during the full weekend of events.

Who better to help make the magic happen than one of USF’s own, Kathy Curtis, a 1990 B.A. graduate and current president of the Cinema Center board? Best friends with Buck’s wife since junior high school, she solicited his involvement in increasing Cinema Center’s impact.

“When I joined the Cinema Center board, I said we’ve got to find a film celebrity to champion our organization and bring other celebrities here to help us raise money,” she said. “Chris said he would try to help, and then in November 2013, ‘Frozen’ launched and set the world on fire. Then I said, ‘I want to bring you to town.’ He agreed, and I talked to Cinema Center Director, Jonah Crismore, about partnering with another organization that could give this some additional reach. When alumna Audrey Riley suggested USF, I thought it was perfect. It’s wonderful to have my friendship with Chris, passion for Cinema Center and loyalty to USF come together in such a powerful way.”

Curtis is no stranger to giving back. She accepted the board position because it’s one of her favorite arts organizations in town. While working fulltime in communication and financial services marketing, she was also helping people use creative outlets to overcome issues, including grief. She has created several programs to help people express themselves creatively, guiding them to awakenings that can transform them. Now she has written two books, including a guided grief journal, with a goal to do this fulltime.

She came to USF for its “extraordinarily rich art program,” which put her on the path to a creative career. “Being an art...
major makes you look at things from different angles and think independently, and that gave me the ability to develop my leadership skills and put creative ideas together for companies, as well as for the people in my programs,” she said.

On the night of the screening, many stayed to hear Buck humorously and humbly discuss the making of “Frozen.” Challenged to create a modern fairy tale from Hans Christian Anderson’s fairy tale, “The Snow Queen,” he spoke of his love for animation, from childhood onward.

Experiencing his first animated film with “Pinocchio” in the ’60s, he “fell in love with the characters and environment. So Disney was in my daydreams, and I wanted nothing more than to be an animator. I was always drawing, and when I got to Disney after two years at California Institute of the Arts, I remember walking in and knowing I was home. I wanted to make a Disney classic.”

Who knew that the idea for “Frozen” was actually shelved after “The Princess and the Frog” experienced less-than-predicted popularity! “We wondered if the classic fairy tale was possible or if the audience was too cynical,” he said. However, when “Tangled” gave a first glimpse of that modern fairy tale, with its relatable characters and humor, “Frozen” came back off the shelf.

USF is a bit like home, he said. “They understand the art form and me as an artist, and I’ve taught at schools and really feed off the energy of students. Adam Green, one of our animators from USF, is one of the best. This is a heck of a program.”

“This really established our relationship with USF, and I believe we will partner again, because we share similar goals. We had some very unforgettable moments, and Chris brought such a high level of humanity and entertainment to the community. I’m so glad to make that happen,” Curtis said. Learn more about Kathy and her book, “Invisible Ink,” by visiting her website, kathycurtisink.com.
A new lab now brings expressions of shock to new USF Radiologic Technology students—“Wow, this is like what we use in clinicals!”

The Department of Radiologic Technology recently replaced its energized radiographic lab with newly refurbished x-ray equipment that incorporates state-of-the-art digital technology. The new equipment replaces radiographic film with a radiation detector plate. The digital detector converts x-rays into light, which in turn becomes a wireless digital signal that is processed to obtain an image in less than five seconds.

Donna Lyke has nearly 39 years as director of the program, graduating from Lutheran Hospital’s School of Radiologic Technology in 1973 and becoming its Radiologic Technology director in 1976. When the program migrated to USF’s Doermer Family Center for Health Science Education in 2000, she and clinical coordinator Christina Gilliom continued what has now become a 20-year tradition of 100 percent first-time pass rate on certification exams for graduates.

With the new equipment, radiography students get three generations of technology, ranging from filmscreen to computed radiography imaging plates and now wireless technology, the new standard in healthcare imaging.

But the new equipment only supports a program whose excellence already had analysts scratching their heads. “The last examiners wanted to know how we develop students who are true professionals,” Lyke said. “Maybe it’s role modeling, because I have excellent faculty. Part is because we do care so much, and spend so much more time with students than what is allotted in the classroom. It instills professionalism that makes them want to excel.
“Prospective students are so impressed with our facilities. It’s a great recruiting tool and we are so lucky to have received them from Lutheran. You can’t be successful without the resources. The strong points of why they come and stay are the small class size and attention they get.”

USF President Sister M. Elise Kriss has strongly supported the program all along, Lyke said. “She secured a donated unit from Parkview and we had it 15 years. Eventually we couldn’t find replacement parts, and when we could, it was costly. Faculty saw the need to replace the unit, began to meet with vendors and acquired various options until the right plan fell into place.”

Radiologic Technology Department faculty member Bill Norton graduated from USF in 2001. Previously an electrical engineer for Raytheon in Fort Wayne, “he was instrumental in looking at the technical aspects of getting this lab built. His radiography and project managing technical skills helped,” Lyke said.

Norton gets a microscopic view of the students, their use and their reactions in the lab. “With first-year students, you explain position and use the phantom (composite human skeletal structures) to make sure they have the right projection. Now we are able to take images and send them to the classroom from the lab for evaluation. The network capability is awesome,” he said.

A poster with the direction, “Keep calm, I’m (almost) a radiologic technologist,” keeps some humor in the lab, but the Bureau of Labor Statistics has some pretty serious data about job prospects for grads, Lyke said. “Jobs are expected to grow 21 percent through 2022, faster than average. The jobs will really open up as the Baby Boomers retire.”

Clinical partnerships ensure USF students get to those job opportunities. “We have 13 clinical sites, so students get a chance to display their abilities to a network for employment. That’s unusual, because often there are only one or two clinical partners. This gives students a lot more opportunity. They interact with the Veterans Administration, Urgent Care, orthopedic and acute care, along with several area hospitals,” Lyke said.
If you watched the stage collapse at the Indianapolis State Fair three years ago, you’d have experienced horror, but likely no conception of the tragedy’s business impact.

Every move we make involves risk. Knowing and assessing those risks has created a unique cluster of insurers in the Fort Wayne region who know, assess and insure those risks. That translates into job opportunities for students enrolling in a new Risk Management and Insurance (RMI) program at USF.

Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership and local insurance companies have formed Northeast Indiana Specialty Insurers (NISI) to strengthen the insurance industry via talent development, marketing awareness, advocacy and business development. USF business school Dean Bob Lee and new RMI program director Eve-Lynn Clarke, a former Assistant Vice President for Fort Wayne’s Lincoln Financial Group, are members.

Every business faces a unique set of risks to assess and manage to prevent financial losses. The number and types of companies around Fort Wayne and the range of insurance companies have made the region strong for risk management insurance, and a verdant place for the growth of students to serve it. The program’s Lilly Endowment funding underscores its importance.

“Northeast Indiana has significant strength in the specialty insurance area, and lots of personnel resources are approaching retirement age,” Clarke said. “By developing this major at USF and building relationships with insurance companies, we better understand the companies’ needs and increased opportunities for jobs and internships for graduates educated in risk management. We are creating a pipeline of resources for the insurance companies in northeast Indiana and keeping the students here, so there’s a major win for everyone.”
Parents want to know their student has a strong likelihood of getting a job after graduation, and they’re more likely to send their student where that is closer to guaranteed,” she said.

Gone are the days when the jobs only involved insurance sales. “Many of our needs have changed, and the insurance industry has evolved. It’s broader than just sales. RMI can manage risk for marketing, finance, nursing/pre-medical and sport management. Students can major in these areas and minor in RMI. There are lots of synergies. And the entire insurance operation is so broad, with finance, accounting, marketing, HR, underwriting, and claims adjustment, there are just so many possibilities in insurance,” Clarke said.

The business world is rife with examples of the need for risk management.

“Risk management education is so important because there’s risk everywhere, whether personal or business,” she said. “As an example, there are many health-related risks associated with the recent Ebola scare, there are business risks associated with recent computer hacking incidents, there are homeowner risks associated with weather-related flooding, there are reputation risks associated with inappropriate actions of NFL football players and there are medical risks associated with family trips to an amusement park. Many of the financial losses associated with these risks can be managed with insurance and following good industry practices.”

As our business students prepare for careers, Clarke and the rest of the USF team are busy networking to locate internships for those in the signature Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership EPIC program. “There are lots of companies,” she said. “Medical Protective already has USF students, as do Ash Brokerage and Lincoln Financial Group. Insurance companies are excited about the potential of hiring graduates who have a general knowledge of insurance operations.

“We are incorporating project-based learning into the RMI curriculum, and are reaching out to the area’s New Tech high schools to learn and to share more about the RMI program. In addition to traditional lecturing, students will have interaction with industry guest speakers, participate in case studies, groups projects and presentations, experiential learning and internships.

“We believe employers are looking for new hires who are team players, with a general knowledge of insurance, good oral and written communication skills, curious and creative minds and analytic and problem-solving skills. Our objective is to prepare the RMI students to meet those needs,” Clarke said.

Clarke and her team are investigating certifications through the Life Office Management Association and The Institutes, and plan to align the RMI coursework with industry curriculum to introduce the students to Web-based industry certifications.

“Ideally, the students can graduate with an insurance certification or working toward one. We are looking for ways to equip our students for a major win for their future,” she said.
USF education graduate and philanthropist Toni Murray has a policy: if you need it, you’ve got it—even the art off her walls. A recent chat in Murray’s home began with a multi-layered conversation about her philosophy of giving and ended with the visitor leaving with a piece of Murray’s original art tucked under her arm. This has been Toni’s way ever since she earned bachelor and master degrees in education at USF and set out to change young lives forever.

**TEACHING FROM THE HEART**

When she was a young girl, her parents quickly realized Toni’s talent for swimming and put her in swimming classes. This led to Toni’s first teaching experience, instructing and working swim meets for McMillen, Swinney and Lawton parks. Toni followed her passion for teaching and giving for 39 years, opening her arms to students from Warsaw to Fort Wayne, many of them in inner-city schools. As a new education graduate, Toni got her first post with third-graders at Sacred Heart in Warsaw, during which time she married her late husband, John.
Back in Fort Wayne, Toni served as a substitute teacher at Bloomingdale Elementary School, where the principal informed her one day at lunch that she would receive a call that evening. As it turns out, she was the object of a tug-of-war between two principals who wanted to hire her. Toni chose to teach fourth-graders at Northcrest and went on to teach at Harmar and Anthony Wayne before putting her heart into nine years at Bunche and 10 years at Pleasant Center. She was teaching at Levan Scott when she retired.

“When I taught, the kids were my children, and they were well spoiled. I wanted to teach,” the Fort Wayne Bishop Luers graduate said. “I was told I’d never make it to college.” Proving them wrong, she earned her bachelor’s degree in 1971 and master’s in 1972 by taking classes for two summers.

LIFETIME OF GIVING
As the co-owner of Industrial Tool Grinding in Waynedale with her husband, John, Toni took over the operation of the business when he passed. Even with this increased workload, Toni made time for her passion for education and giving back, continuing as a volunteer at Northcrest.

When the tool grinding business was sold in 2012, she continued to work one-on-one with third- and fifth-graders, helping prepare learning materials and producing a monthly newsletter. She also works with Allen County’s Project Read to help students in grades K-3 read at grade level, which is growing quickly and keeping her very busy.

TIME, TALENT—AND TREASURE
But Toni doesn’t stop with time and talent. She helps others financially. At the University of Saint Francis, 21 USF students of various majors receive the Antoinette V. Murray Endowed Scholarship by maintaining a 3.0 GPA and meeting community service requirements.

Through a Charitable Remainder Trust, Toni has created two other scholarships, plus a fund to aid cancer research. The John and Toni Murray Scholarship Fund benefits students at Winebrenner Theological Seminary at Findley University, the John and Toni Murray Endowed Scholarship helps students at Indiana Wesleyan University, and the John and Toni Murray Cancer Research Fund benefits Purdue University’s research efforts.

“The kids know I give because I meet them for lunch outside of the formal USF Scholarship Luncheon,” she said. True to her passion, Tony made service the top requirement to earn her scholarships.

These days, Toni dedicates her Mondays and Fridays at Northcrest, serves as board president for the Allen County Homemakers Association and connects with fifth-graders through Junior Achievement’s Biz Town. Her weekends could include the wedding of a scholarship student, or a 4-H event at the Allen County Fairgrounds. That’s if none of it collides with playing the Cat in the Hat for Fort Wayne Educators’ Association Choice Fair at Northrop High School.

“I learned from my parents and grandparents to give,” she said. “I think you have to have faith, believe in the Lord and listen to what He’s saying. I think I’m doing what He wants me to do.”
USF Crown Point and Franciscan Alliance team up on inter-professional disaster response

“My paramedic students saw the nursing students managing critical care injuries in the hospital, which gave them a more complex view of the whole process. The nursing students got a comprehensive view of what EMTs do in the field. They saw EMTs can decompress lungs and do other procedures at the accident site. It was knowledge sharing. They taught each other.”

-FRANCISCAN ST. ANTHONY HEALTH EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR ROB DOWLING
Anyone passing USF Crown Point on Sept. 20 would have witnessed a jarring scene—four mangled cars, crash victims being treated by emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and nurses, and the University of Chicago helicopter landing nearby for transport.

It looked real, and the collaborative disaster response simulation between USF Crown Point and Franciscan Alliance measured real things—the preparedness of student nurses and EMTs to respond correctly in the split seconds measuring the difference between life and death.

The first-time collaboration came about through a conversation between USF Crown Point Dean Dr. Marsha King and Franciscan St. Anthony Health EMS Medical Director Rob Dowling about how to bring inter-professional education into Dowling’s annual simulation for his EMT students.

“The EMT students never saw what happens after transfer from the field to the hospital and those modalities,” Dowling said. “This year, Marsha said she’d like to do this at USF Crown Point, and a light went off that this would be great for us all.”

“The Institute of Medicine in its ‘Future of Nursing’ report advises more inter-professional education,” Dr. King said. “Learning and working together ultimately improves patient outcomes and safety. This was our first event outside of our own Simulation Lab. No one in northwest Indiana has done an inter-professional exercise using students at this level.

“We began working two months out with our Med Surg III course coordinator, Kim Valich, and with Rob to map this out. It expanded so the drill was outside the university, with the emergency room set up inside. The nurses and paramedics worked outside and then the nurses performed the ER procedures.”

The USF Crown Point collaboration brought more structure and levels to the drill, Dowling said. “It was USF’s idea to have more evaluators watching students work. Students worked in teams of one paramedic leader with two nursing students and two first responders or EMTs. One evaluator watched each team of four or five per car, which was a great help with evaluation strategies.”

The inter-professional exercise opened the students’ eyes to the inter-workings of other medical disciplines, Dowling said. Dowling and Dr. King agree on the success and effectiveness of the new collaboration.

“It was great collaboration and cohesiveness. I was impressed. Evaluators could talk to each other during the exercise, so that was enhanced from what it was before. After the drill, all the students got their questions answered, and seeing that happen was cool,” Dowling said.

“For new paramedic students coming into an ER where they don’t know the personnel and getting ideas about how that goes and what expectations of them might be was valuable. It was nice not to be on call, but to watch a drill and see how they progressed. I had a blast.”

“We are always looking for new collaborations with Franciscan Alliance, and this was wonderful and very successful,” Dr. King said. “To see the looks on our students’ faces as the medical helicopter landed was amazing. It went so exceptionally well that we will conduct this same simulation annually and we’ll be conducting a new simulation with Franciscan Alliance in the spring.”

Community agencies also displayed an enthusiastic buy-in for the simulation, Dowling said. The Boone Grove Fire Department used its Jaws of Life on scene to extricate some of the victims from the vehicles, while the Saint John Fire Department provided a staffed ambulance to assist in transporting victims to the emergency room at USF.

Photos by William Bero, Franciscan Alliance
The address 2701 Spring Street has become like “sacred space” for me. It was a long time ago when I first saw the then 65-acre property. In fact, in 1957 as our car pulled off Main Street onto Leesburg Road, the trolley line and track were still there and you had to walk down Spring Street to catch the bus at Runnion.

The Castle and its towers dominated the land, along with the newly-built Trinity Hall. So it was that as a teenager I engaged in the pursuit of knowledge in the atmosphere of faith and reason, as well as Franciscan values. Finding chemistry and mathematics my favorite topics, I soon began to spend much time in the old carriage house, which is now the Student Center. The chemistry lab had three doors, rather narrow entry points for carriages, where wheels and spokes rolled in for storage and were pulled out by elegant teams of horses.

Amid the fragrances of chemistry, one could imagine the wheels of those carriages rolling on as time does. The old smokestack in the southeast corner carried the fumes of chemistry in the draft. Space was crowded for the sciences, and it was at that time I helped with the building of the temporary classrooms still located behind the current student center.

As I set about mastering the material world and transformations of substances in chemical reactions, an inner call spoke to me about things spiritual, about the meaning of things and life. Somehow, through the wonders, beauty, design of nature and grace of God, I was transformed spiritually. I chose to begin my
formation as a Sister of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration in February of 1960. I kept this quiet for some time, and enjoyed the life of a student and celebrated with friends. It was ice skating on the lake, mastering a killer spike in volleyball, singing in the Madrigals and playing the clarinet.

During the six years I was away, great plans were being made for a new science hall. Sisters Agnes, Celine and Clara were working with architects for this. Achatz was a professor at Purdue whom Sister Agnes knew when she got her Ph.D. in mathematics, so through contact with this family, a sum of money was donated to further this project.

As the wheels of the carriage rolled, I returned for some further study in 1962 and did summer study at Notre Dame in math and chemistry. I also taught science and chemistry in Huntington, Indiana and Herman, Missouri. As the ink was drying on my master’s degree, I was assigned to join the St. Francis College faculty in 1967, and began teaching chemistry. It was still in that carriage garage chemistry lab, but plans were nearly complete for the new science hall, so we spent time looking at blueprints and visualizing the new Achatz Hall.

Late in 1969, with carts and student help, we moved into Achatz. Our offices were equipped with a lab bench, and the spacious stockroom and preparation rooms were more than we could dream of. It was a glorious time for science, and the carriages were left behind for more powerful and faster means of learning.

The tools of science and special equipment in our hands, along with colleagues full of enthusiasm, filled the years of delving into science, engaging students and reveling in the success of our graduates. Several faculty members completed further study by earning Ph.D.s, as I did. I even spent some time in Honduras, where the basics of life and nature seemed closer. Already 1981, I returned from Honduras to take up leadership of the Chemistry Department and participate in the transformation of Saint Francis College into the University of Saint Francis.

I still like to walk to the back of the now-Student Center and think of the years, the experiments I have done and the explosion demonstrations—like the explosion of growth and creative expansion of the science programs at the University of Saint Francis. It happened quickly and with power.

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

-JEREMIAH 29:11
“The Son of God began his human life as we all do, being born as a helpless baby so that we would not fear him, but be drawn to love him.”

- SISTER ANITA HOLZMER, OSF, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR MISSION INTEGRATION
Of all the cherished holiday traditions of Christmas at USF, the Living Nativity and Lighting of the Lake represent possibly the most poignant and powerful. As evening begins, a hush falls on those gathered in Trinity Hall. After Mass, they take the candle-lit walk across campus, thread through the causeway of Mirror Lake, lined with luminaries that cast what feels like a hallowed light.

Reaching the natural amphitheatre formed by the sloped lawn of the Pope John Paul II Center, USF students, faculty and staff re-enact the scene of Christ’s birth long ago, the holy scene lit by the shimmering lake beyond. As the live stable animals emit frosty breaths, the night stands still with the immense possibilities the world-changing event holds for us still, so many years later. The tableau brings real feeling to the closing hymn, “Silent Night.”

Sister Anita Holzmer, OSF, Associate Vice President for Mission Integration, directs the event each year, and explained its special effect and meaning. “The Living Nativity at USF is unlike others in that our students re-create the very first ‘Living Nativity’ enacted by St. Francis of Assisi on Christmas Eve in 1223 in the little Italian town of Greccio,” she said.

“Another distinction is the emphasis in St. Francis’ scriptural narration on the Incarnation of the Son of God—the fact that God’s Son hid his divinity in our human flesh. The Son of God began his human life as we all do, being born as a helpless baby so that we would not fear him, but be drawn to love him.

“This emphasis on the Incarnation is very much a part of our Catholic and Franciscan identity, as well as our mission at USF. What Jesus Christ came to show us by his human life was how to have a loving, intimate relationship with his Father, with others and with all of creation. Francis of Assisi understood and experienced this ‘relationality’ in his own spiritual life, and the University of Saint Francis lives and promotes this in the Franciscan Values. As a ‘community of learners’ we ‘reverence the unique dignity of each person,’ ‘serving each other, society and the Church’ by ‘fostering peace and justice’ and ‘respecting creation.’”

Various traditions also thrill visitors
Christmas in the Castle brought many to delight in historic Brookside, decorated in holiday splendor as the family of industrialist John Bass may have enjoyed. Local designers and decorators bring new flair to the rooms of the ornate stone mansion from year to year. Well known for its art galleries, USF opened the doors of Weatherhead and Lupke galleries for free exhibits. A Fair Trade Bazaar in the North Campus gave shoppers a chance to purchase from international craftspeople who typically experience disadvantages in marketing their wares. The Star of Bethlehem show in Schouweiler Planetarium enchanted viewers, tracking the path the Wise Men may have taken as they followed the Christmas star on the night of Christ’s birth.

“Messiah” enchants for second year
Listeners enjoyed the power of classical Christmas music with a full rendition of Georg Friedrich Handel’s “Messiah” at the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center. Heartland, an adjunct vocal performance ensemble of the University of Saint Francis, thrilled audience members with its professional singers, Festival Chorus and Orchestra, USF’s University Singers and internationally-renowned soloists.
USF’s Dr. Bechill returns to help found Science Saturday
USF touches lives with a beautiful symmetry.

It infuses students with knowledge and inspiration at an almost cellular level, like chlorophyll running through the veins of a maple leaf. Nourished, students learn about the external world and their own internal landscape in a holistic way. Ever notice how the shape and veins of a maple leaf imitate the human hand?

Something like that happened when USF’s Dr. Michael Bechill came to USF as a Wauseon, Ohio high school sophomore in 2002. He attended his first Science Symposium, fell in love with the experience and university, and began a 10-year journey of leadership and learning.

“I had a great time at the first one,” he said. “I remember vividly we were looking at the oil-contaminated soil from the site where Rolland Art Center was built, and that’s where I met faculty member Dr. Larry Wiedman. He spent a lot of time talking to me, and it was wonderful that when I came back to Symposium that spring, he remembered me and my name. It was so neat, I came back six times, every year.”

He chose USF without hesitation.

“I turned down better scholarships when I compared other universities with the campus and personal attention at USF,” Bechill said. When he arrived, he immersed himself completely. “I lived in the dorms and got incredibly involved,” he said. “I was student body vice president, resident assistant for Padua, in Pep Band, started the Jazz Band, was president of Science Club, helped with up to 150 shows a year as a planetarium educator, was an assistant for anatomy and physiology labs and helped with microbiology labs. I also performed independent study muscle research with Warren Pryor.”

He graduated from USF in biology and started his doctorate at University of Toledo in August 2008, touching off six years of research into airborne infectious disease and antibiotic-resistant disease, plus upper-level graduate teaching. Leadership extended as a matter of course.

“I applied my USF leadership experience and became president of the graduate student association,” he said. “It was a defunct organization, so I instituted a general assembly for representatives of all 10 colleges to provide a graduate student voice. I created a website that received over 48,000 hits from across the world. The Midwest Graduate Research Symposium grew from 30 to 300 presenters and 500 participants. We developed a grant-based travel reimbursement for grad students to present internationally and nationally. We met weekly with the graduate school’s administration and negotiated a budget increase from $4,000 to $150,000. We were recognized by the National Board of Professional Graduate Students as the best in the country, and it was fun going against the Ivy Leagues. Those successes are attributable to lessons learned at USF, its wonderful atmosphere and attention to students.”

Bechill defended his dissertation and came back to USF two weeks after the birth of his first son on July 8. His wife, a USF education grad, teaches kindergarten. “To get our educations and come back home to USF and start our family has just been such a blessing,” he said. “My faculty family is here and Achatz is, to me, coming home.”

He talked to alumnus faculty member Matt Hopf, who directs the USF Cadaver Lab. Learning Hopf was already educating high school and home school students, “We said, why don’t we just do something special? From there we spoke of bringing in others, and Dr. Paul Schmidt and Dr. Andrea Geyer were interested, so that brings in biology, physics and Cadaver Lab for pre-physician assistant, pre-med, dentistry and chemistry students,” he said. “It’s a wonderful opportunity to show what USF can offer and recruit the best and brightest.”

Nearly 100 people registered for USF’s first Science Saturday on Nov. 8, but the faculty group won’t stop there. “I truly believe we offer the best education for the students and develop the whole person,” Bechill said. “It will be exciting to see where this goes.

“I’m not alone. Matt had laid the groundwork, and Science Saturday was a natural extension. It has come back full circle, to faculty with a passion for students, teaching and helping them learn. When we work together, we can do things we never could as individuals, and that’s what’s wonderful about the Achatz family.”

There’s that symmetry again.

“My family is here and Achatz is, to me, coming home.”

-DR. MICHAEL BECHILL, BS 2008
Seniors Jason Walcutt and Joey Dynako are perfect examples. Walcutt was named Capital One Academic All-America® College Division men’s soccer first team for the second consecutive season, while Dynako, a defensive end in football, was a first team selection for the first time.

A business administration major, Walcutt has a 3.72 grade point average. He served as soccer team captain, excelling on the pitch at forward before suffering a season-ending injury in the Cougars’ first Crossroads League (CL) match of the season. Walcutt finished his career as the USF career No. 2 goal scorer with 47 and No. 2 in points with 109. He scored nine goals for the Cougars in nine non-conference matches in 2014, and achieved a CL-leading 18 goals in 2013, becoming the first USF player ever selected for the Crossroads League Offensive Player of the Year award.

Dynako is a pre-med major with a 3.99 grade point average, who finished an outstanding senior season at defensive end. In 10 games for USF in 2014, he finished 33rd in the conference in tackles per game with a 5.4 per-game average. He had 26 solo tackles and 28 assists for 54 total, the fourth highest for the Cougars, and tied for 18th in MSFA sacks with five. An All-MSFA Mideast League second team selection, Dynako is the fifth USF football team member to earn this national honor in the last four seasons.

In women’s soccer, senior center back Sarah Freygang was named Crossroads League Defensive Player of the Year, completing an outstanding USF career. In her final game for the Lady Cougars in the CL Tournament semifinal match, she bootied the kickoff from midfield into the goal on one bounce with just 13 seconds left, tying the match. Despite the fact that Grace College won on penalty kicks, Freygang’s achievement will long be remembered.

Scoring 15 goals, Heather Jones continued her impact on USF soccer offense and was named NAIA All-America Honorable Mention for the second consecutive season. Jones is a three-time All-Crossroads League selection and is tied for No. 3 on the USF career goals scored list with 39. She is also tied for No. 2 on the game-winning goals scored list with 14 and is No. 7 on the points scored list with 79.

In addition to the honors won by Walcutt, Dynako, Freygang and Jones, other USF athletes scored impressive achievements this fall.

The NAIA recently named USF as a Five-Star Champion of Character. Of 260 NAIA institutions, USF tied for the sixth highest score and is one of only twelve to attain a “Gold” status. This award is based on the NAIA core values of Integrity, Respect, Responsibility, Sportsmanship, and Servant Leadership.
COUGARS EXCEL
A summary of their efforts, listed by sport, follows.

CROSS COUNTRY
Led by freshman Cadence Faurote’s 52nd-place finish and a 53rd-place finish by senior Mary Brokaw, the Lady Cougars finished seventh, USF’s best finish in the conference meet in the last 14 seasons.
- Faurote finished at 20 minutes, 44 seconds, just a 10th of a second behind No. 51.
- Brokaw finished at 20:49.1.
- On the men’s side, junior Dustin Moore finished 87th at 29:45.6.
- Senior Peter Haydock was 94th at 30:08.3.

FOOTBALL
It was the Cougars’ 16th consecutive winning season.
- USF earned six first-team MEL selections, four second-team selections and three honorable mention picks. Nine of the 13 Cougars selected are seniors.
- Seniors Kory Stamps (cornerback) and Wesley Hunsucker (QB) were two of six Cougars named to the 2014 Mid-States Football Association MidEast League first team.
- Stamps is a three-time first-team selection. Hunsucker, a first-time selection in his first season as starting QB, is the first USF first-team selection at QB since Chris Bramell in 2005.
- USF’s other first-team selections: senior center Jesse Boley, senior defensive end Zach Bruce (two-time first team), senior linebacker Kyle Mathewson, junior wide receiver Cam Smith.
- USF second-team all-conference selections: senior running back Antoin Campbell, offensive tackle Kegan Morris, senior defensive end Joey Dynako, junior safety Cale Tabler. USF honorable mention selections: senior linebacker Steve Kiermaier and juniors Akiem Kelsaw (WR) and Karrington Thompson (DE).
- Hunsucker finished No. 3 in MSFA pass efficiency; tied for third most TD passes thrown with 18; led the MSFA MEL in TD passes thrown; finished No. 2 in passing yards at 1,786.
- Campbell finished fourth in rushing yards per game with an 80.0 average; his 108 yards at No. 9 Marian on Nov. 15 was his 13th career game with 100-or-more yards tying the record second by Daniel Carter (2006-09); his 72-yard run from scrimmage against the Knights was the second longest of the season in the MSFA.
- Smith finished No. 5 in MSFA receiving with an average of 76.0 yards per game; he tied for third most TD receptions with seven. In the MEL, he led the league in reception yards with 836 (47 receptions).
- Mathewson finished third in MEL tackles with 100 total and No. 6 in the MSFA with a 9.1 tackles-per-game average.

GOLF
Lady Cougar golfers won two tournaments, finished second in one and third in two others out of six fall tournaments. USF won the 11-team John Carroll Invitational with a 685.
- Junior Kaylee Kingseed and freshman Nikki LaLonde tied for third at 171 to lead USF.
- The Lady Cougars won the rain-shortened Mt. Vernon Invitational with a 328; Kingseed shot 120 and finished third to lead USF.
- On the men’s side, junior Noel Horvath, who earned medalist honors with a 75, led USF to the Manchester Invitational title (309). Freshman Tyler White and Chase Ellsworth both finished with 77s.

MEN’S SOCCER
Coach Mitch Ellisen’s squad qualified for the CL Tournament by winning two of its last three CL regular season matches. USF finished 8-10-1.

WOMEN’S SOCCER
USF finished 11-7-2, its third consecutive winning season, and advanced to the CL Tournament semifinal. Junior defender Emily Richardson joined Freygang and Jones on the All-CL team.

TENNIS
Under the guidance of Kristen Harrow, USF finished 2-6 (sixth) in CL play, 7-9 overall, a new record for overall wins since the restart. The Lady Cougars finished 3-5 in CL competition, 15-17 overall. The Lady Cougars finished 9-9 in CL competition, 15-17 overall. The season’s final match was one of USF’s best.
- Sophomore Nathan Barger earned his second All-CL selection and led USF to its best finish since the restart in 2010.
- Barger finished 12-4 at No. 1 singles, winning 11 of his last 13 matches including USF’s first CL Tournament appearance.

VOLLEYBALL
In the Lady Cougars’ first season under the guidance of Scott Haddix, USF finished 9-9 in CL competition, 15-17 overall. The season’s final match was one of USF’s best.
- All-CL second team selections: juniors Carrie and Sarah Clark, sophomore Chloe Hubner.
- All-CL honorable mention: senior Kristin Ball, junior Rachel Weaver.
- NAIA Daktronics Scholar-Athletes: Carrie and Sarah Clark, Kristin Ball, Morgan Hansen, Haley Roehm (USF led CL teams along with Goshen College).

Find all athletics schedules, the most up-to-date results and news at saintfranciscougars.com.
COUGARS ON THE PROWL

LaCross gets win No. 100; Hogan joins 1,000-points list

By late January, the Cougars had earned Head Coach Chad LaCross a milestone win, and senior guard Josh Hogan joined the USF 1,000-points career scoring list.

The Cougars earned LaCross his 100th win in an 80-70 victory at Taylor on Dec. 2, making LaCross the fastest USF head coach (USF’s sixth) to reach 100 wins, with No. 100 earned in his 148th game. Hogan, who hit the game-winning basket for USF in an 82-80 win at No. 14 St. Ambrose (IA), became the 32nd Cougar to score 1,000 or more career points when he scored 19 against Miami (Ohio)-Middletown on Nov. 22 at the Marian University Classic. USF took a six-game win streak and a 10-1 record into its early-season showdown with No. 1-ranked Indiana Wesleyan University at Hutzell Athletic Center on Dec. 6, but the Cougars lost, 79-58. USF was No. 11 in the most recent NAIA Coaches’ Top 25 poll, released in mid-January.

As of this writing, sophomore guard Kegan Comer had scored 20 or more points in seven of USF’s 20 games and was fifth in CL scoring with a 16.0 average. Austin Fox, CL Preseason Player of the Year, was No. 4 in rebounds, averaging 7.4 per game. Hogan and Comer were both named CL Player of the Week for their efforts in different weeks.

Andrews’ 300th career win, Ridley scoring milestone provide early highlights for NAIA defending champion Lady Cougars

The season isn’t over yet, but some highlights came early for the 2014 NAIA Champion University of Saint Francis women’s basketball team. Lady Cougars’ Head Coach Gary Andrews has his 300th career win, all with USF, and junior Brooke Ridley is the 21st member of the 1,000-point club.

Andrews’ milestone win came in Game 4, a 71-39 victory at Aquinas College (MI) on Nov. 7. He is the 21st NAIA coach to reach the 300-win plateau and joins active coaches Lori Culler (Huntington University) and Steve Brooks (Indiana Wesleyan University) with 300 or more career wins. Ridley, the 2014 Crossroads League Preseason Player of the Year, entered her third season with 926 points and vaulted over the 1,000-point plateau with 15 in a 77-31 win over Trinity International on the second day of the Best Western Hoopfest at Goshen College.

The Lady Cougars are 15-5 as of this writing after an 80-68 win over 10th-ranked Marian University at Hutzell Athletic Center on Jan. 17. Akyah Taylor scored 24 points and grabbed 14 rebounds, and Brooke Ridley added 19 points, leading USF to its 37th consecutive win at HAC, which is celebrating its 25th year as home for USF athletics. Currently No. 7 in the NAIA Division II Top 25, USF lost its season opener 73-72 to preseason No. 6 Saint Xavier (IL), lost to No. 12 Cardinal Stritch (WI) 67-60 and lost to No. 5 Indiana Wesleyan 53-50 on Dec. 6. The Lady Cougars were the NAIA Division II Preseason NAIA Coaches’ Top 25 No. 1. As of Jan. 20, Taylor led the Crossroads League and USF in scoring average (21.6 ppg) and rebounding (9.2 rpg) and ranked No. 6 in NAIA points scored (410) and scoring average. Her .556 shooting percentage was No. 12 in NAIA, No. 1 in the CL.
In Loving Memory

Sister Ann Christine was the oldest of four children born to Edwin and Edna (Raczkowski) Kozlowski in East Chicago, Indiana on July 20, 1939. She attended St. Casimir Grade School, Bishop Noll High School and St. Francis High School.

Entering our Community in February 1957, Ann Christine received the habit on August 12, 1957. She professed her final vows on August 12, 1964.

Sister Ann Christine received a Bachelor of Arts in Social Studies in 1963 from St. Francis College and a Master of Arts in Sociology from the University of Notre Dame in 1972. She also studied sociology at Loyola University in Chicago, from 1974 to 1975.

For 30 years she taught at all levels, including 14 years at the Huntington Catholic schools. Her devoted students remained in contact and visited often. She also spent 11 years at St. Francis College as a sociology teacher, served as Dean of Women for six years, and helped start the Campus Ministry program.

Her most recent apostolate was spent at Our Lady of Angels Convent in Mishawaka, caring for our senior Sisters.

Even while teaching she would spend summers helping to care for the Sisters between school terms. She was passionate about providing affectionate care to each individual, especially those most in need or most forgotten.

She lovingly cared for her mother and her sister, Sister M. Jacqueline of the Mishawaka Province, through their suffering. She was always thinking of everyone else.

Sister Ann Christine died at 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 10, 2014 at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka, Indiana, surrounded by her loving family and the Sisters. With gratitude for her life in our midst, we say good-bye. May she now rejoice for all eternity in the presence of her Spouse whom she so faithfully served for 57 years.
A matter of principal

Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry spent Thursday, Oct. 16 doing fellow USF alumnus Adam Swinford’s job as principal at Fort Wayne’s Miami Middle School. “Principal for a Day,” a Fort Wayne Community Schools-sponsored event, was a positive experience for the mayor.

“I’m encouraged by the innovative learning that’s taking place at Fort Wayne Community Schools,” Mayor Henry said. “I was pleased to see how engaged the students were. An eye-opening and rewarding moment was witnessing the care and compassion for the special needs children. Principal Swinford and his team are doing an excellent job at Miami.”

Marching band inaugurated

High school marching band musicians and performers can continue their experience in college, as USF inaugurates its first marching band in fall 2015, through the School of Creative Arts (SOCA). Band scholarship tryouts will be conducted by a future band director, and in the program’s first four years a 100-member band and color guard will be developed. First-year band members will play with the university’s Pep Band next fall. They will begin marching and performing color guard routines a year later, with a full marching regimen in year three and beyond. Interested students may contact SOCA at 260-399-7700, ext. 8001.

USF Culturas Unidas founded

USF Culturas Unidas (UCU) has launched with the mission of promoting Hispanic culture at USF and the community through meetings, activities and events. Members believe they can bring about change through leadership and service. The student club is not just for Hispanic students, and is not a Spanish language club, said UCU President Claudia Alcala. Faculty adviser Paula Avila hopes the club brings the closeness of family to student members. “We have been sharing traditional home-cooked meals and many childhood stories,” she said. “While most members are Hispanic, we are open to anyone wishing to embrace diverse cultures. Many blended families are not just of one ethnic background, especially those who are second- and third-generation Americans.”

Possible future events include a Hispanic health fair at Saint Patrick’s Catholic Church in Fort Wayne, in conjunction with the USF Wellness Committee and Dr. Katie Weidman’s physical therapy assistant studies.

The USF Culturas Unidas hopes to represent the mission of the Diversity Resource Center through deeper conversations and developing relationships.
From the torchy sax-and-piano blues in the show’s prelude to the terraced risers, colored floods and projected backdrops in the staging, all pointed to the classy, humorous song-and-dance narrative to come, in the elaborately-styled USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center.

Set in the 1960s and based on the true story of Frank Abagnale Jr., the show unfolded song by song the tale of the teenager who, before his 19th birthday, performed cons worth millions of dollars by posing as a Pan Am pilot, a Georgia doctor and a Louisiana parish prosecutor.

Relentlessly pursued by the FBI’s Detective Carl Hanratty, the boy leads him on an intercontinental chase while living the high life through forgery and impersonation. So refined were Abagnale’s check forging skills, the FBI eventually sought his help to catch other forgers.

Director Brad Beauchamp and assistant director Aaron Willoughby, USF communication and theater professor, brought strong voices and great stage movement to the principal roles of Frank Abagnale Jr. (Chris Rasor), Paula Abagnale (Leslie Beauchamp), Hanratty (Aaron Mann) and Frank Abagnale Sr. (Todd Frymier, who played Willy Wonka in USF’s spring production of “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”).

Other regional stage talent combined with that of USF School of Creative Arts and city high school students to round out the cast for the song-and-dance gem.
Rock solidifies USF pride

To generate school spirit and create a sense of community among first-year students, USF student leader Michael Sorenson and other Welcome Week coordinators came up with the idea of the Pride Rock, on which every new student can put a handprint. In August a rock was moved from North Campus to its new home by the Pope John Paul II Center. During Welcome Weekend, the class of 2018 got the rock’s tradition rolling by decorating it with their colorful handprints. The Pride Rock also provides a unique opportunity to promote university programs and send CougarStrong messages to the USF community.

RUNNING THE GOOD RACE

Forum speaker shares on maximizing talents

A set of good skills, properly combined, can create an edge in the business world and life.

That’s what Mike Wien, retired Fortune 500 executive, entrepreneur, professor and world-class Ironman athlete told USF students and the business community at the 21st annual CEO Forum, “The Future of Competitive Advantage,” in October. After 28 years of corporate success, Wien followed his desire to create and to teach, founding Specific Edge Institute, becoming an adjunct for Georgia State and placing second at the world Ironman triathlon championship in his age group.

Success in athletics and business boils down to differentiation, he said. “Success comes from overcoming, and that happens every day in Ironman. I am a very good runner and pretty good bike rider and swimmer. I’m not world class in them separately, but put them together and I am successful. In business, any CEO can have failures, learn, survive and be better.”

He pointed to generality as a common professional pitfall. “People sometimes cast too broad a net. What they’re doing is generalizing and trying to be what someone needs. But you don’t go to a family doctor for a knee problem. The more specific you are, the more success you have.

“In the workshop, I had them write down three strengths, backed up with facts. This is especially important for students. Say an athlete wants to be employed in a business involving athletics. If he’s an accounting major, on the dean’s list and has retail experience also, that makes him valuable, and it’s not something an employer has to just trust him for, like saying ‘I’m a hard worker.’ It resonated with the students.”

He enjoyed the uniqueness of the USF audience. “This was my first presentation with a nun in the audience, and it made my comments about the spiritual aspects of having balance in life resonate,” he said. Wien took time for a social run with USF cross country athletes. “I really, really enjoyed the run with the students. I warmed up with them and we talked the whole way. Quite a few have already sent me LinkedIn requests.”
USF rocks the house

The university hosted USF Battle of the Bands, the area’s first competition exclusively for high school and college-age musicians, in November. Participants competed on stage for a chance to record their original music in the studios of the university’s renowned Music Technology program. This new event, sponsored by the School of Creative Arts, was open to all music genres, including rock/metal, acoustic/folk, jazz/pop, and hip-hop/rhythm and blues. Winners were determined by originality and musical expression, technical skill, professional behavior and stage presence. Judges were industry professionals with a variety of specialties in touring and performing, music business and audio engineering.

Storyteller brings Brookside alive

Storytelling kicked off USF’s 125th anniversary for trustees, friends and the campus community in November. “Sandstone and Scholars: Memorable Stories of Brookside Mansion” by Lou Ann Homan was part of the “If These Walls Could Tell” series, sponsored by Indiana Landmarks and Storytelling Arts of Indiana with funding from Frank and Katrina Basile. Indiana Landmarks commissioned the event after awarding USF its Cook Cup in 2013 for Brookside’s restoration. PBS Channel 39 will rebroadcast the filmed event, in which Homan described the mansion’s sale in 1944 to the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration to establish Saint Francis College.

Rev. David T. Link lectures

USF and the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences co-hosted an Oct. 22 lecture by the Rev. David T. Link, University of Notre Dame Law School dean and professor emeritus and Indiana Department of Corrections Northern Region director of religious services. Father Link presented “Serving the Least, the Last, the Lost and the Lonely,” detailing his prison ministry and his work for justice system reform. His biography is “Camerado, I Give You My Hand: How a Powerful Lawyer-Turned-Priest is Changing the Lives of Men Behind Bars.” The St. Thomas More Society of Fort Wayne co-sponsored the lecture.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

DON’T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO SERVE

Alumni, students and staff can connect with community service opportunities through USF. Run or walk in the Formula for Life 5K on Sunday, April 12, beginning at 1 p.m. at Hutzell Athletic Center on the USF campus, and bid on silent auction items to raise funds for Our Lady of Perpetual Help orphanage in Haiti. Other opportunities are available. For more information, contact Office of Service and Social Action Director Katrina Boedeker at 260-399-7700, ext. 6791 or kboedeker@sf.edu.
In the short, robot siblings Dustee and Darlene return from the future to teach kids about technology. The pair delivers a quick science fact to children between longer science episodes running on WFWA. Kris Hensler, owner of Fort Wayne’s Big Blue Guitar and a program director for WFWA, worked with the students on what he needed after calling White requesting animation work. “Matt makes connections in the community and beyond, takes calls for animation and tries to make it work for us. Our students are dying for the experience,” McKibben said. “He is leading our program to be the top animation school in the Midwest.”

A lot indicates that’s already the case, with USF grad Adam Green firmly established at Disney Animation with his work on “Wreck-it Ralph,” “Tangled” and more recently, “Frozen,” among others. Other USF animation grads have found themselves at Pixar and in other markets large and small.

“One of the people didn’t even know ours was a student film,” said McKibben, who attended the three-day festival to accept her award. “When you go to a show and people think it’s professional, it’s like getting a bucket of cold water on you,” Swearingen said. “You think, ‘Oh my gosh, I’m good at what I do!’”

There’s a science to success, and USF School of Creative Arts animation program director Matt White knows the formula. An internship for senior animation majors Jenni McKibben and Alyssa Swearingen at WFWA-TV 39 in Fort Wayne led to their production, “Cool Science,” which won Best Educational Short at the San Diego International Kids Film Festival (SDIKFF) 2014 this spring.
Swearingen enjoys storytelling, and the internship helped sharpen her focus. “Children’s TV would be very important to me,” she said. “Working with this, I found I like the quick, fun and immediate work of kids’ shows. You turn it out quickly, and I prefer that.” McKibben plans a career in motion graphics. “I learned about illustrating and I like typefaces and commercial work,” she said.

They laugh at the crazy lab hours for animation students. “You can really bond at 4 a.m.—you’re your own little community,” Swearingen said.

This year, SDIKFF screened over 60 films from 38 countries, selecting 48 shorts, one by an Oscar-nominated animator. American filmmakers and delegations from China, Korea, Taiwan, Canada and other countries attended the event. To access the video of Dustee and Darlene’s first two episodes, as well as find information about USF’s Computer Art animation concentration, visit go.sf.edu/usf-computer-animation.

Large things begin small. That’s what happened when art collectors Fred Doloresco of Angola and Lisa Gilman of Warsaw met years ago, forged a friendship and later unknowingly purchased the study and the final version of the same Aldro Hibbard painting.

The miniature and its larger counterpart appeared in “Cape Ann Collection Connections,” the annual Presidential Gala at the School of Creative Arts, which drew hundreds of art patrons in September. Doloresco, Gilman and collector Douglas Runyan of New Haven displayed their collections of historic paintings produced en plein air, or “in the open air.” Scenes from the Cape Ann region, including Gloucester and Rockport, Massachusetts, are typical subject matter and the location of the plein air art colony flourishing in the region at the turn of the 20th century.

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Works by Hibbard (1886-1972), and historic Cape Ann painters Emile Gruppe and Anthony Thieme, made up part of the exhibition. A baseball player, Hibbard founded the Rockport, Massachusetts baseball team, donating paintings to purchase uniforms. “He painted Gloucester in summer and in winter, Vermont,” said Doloresco, who, like Runyan, paints en plein air.

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Gilman began collecting art 30 years ago, and, living in Indianapolis, and was determined to learn about Indiana art. Moving to Warsaw, she bought a Doloresco painting. That began an enduring mentorship and friendship. “He taught me how to know a piece is good, by analyzing structure, brush strokes and lighting,” she said.

Her separate purchase of the study of the larger painting, however, surprised them both. Hibbard produced the miniature as a sketch and changed the light in the larger, finished work. At an art auction in Maine with Runyan, the collectors, not wishing to bid against each other, purchased separately. “She found this one and didn’t know it was the study for mine,” Doloresco said.
1970s:

Thomas Swartz (MS ’79) is a military family life counselor at Magellan Health in Colorado.

1980s:

Julie Scher (BA ’80) opened Scher Maitem Studios, a web video production and web channel division of Scher Maitem Publishing Inc. *Dr. June (Haughan) Robinson (BS ’88, MSE ’93)* is an assistant professor and director of the special education program at USF.

1990s:

Jessica (Meyer) Swinford (BBA ’98, MBA ’10) was accepted to the 2014-15 Leadership Fort Wayne Program. She will be president-elect for Junior League Fort Wayne, 2015-16, and president, 2016-18. *Doug Hoerning (BBA ’99)* is production manager at Cintas.

2000s:

Vince Beasley (BSE ’00, MSE ’04) is assistant principal at Wawasee High School. *Carla (Satchwell) Pyle (BS ’00)* is the director of marketing and creative services at USF. *Nathan Abels (BA ’03)* exhibited new works titled “West with the Night” at RULE Gallery in Denver, Colorado. *Tony Papa (BA ’03)* is product manager at PromarkBRANDS. *Patrick Riggle (BA ’03, MA ’14)* created an animation, “ Pretending with a Patchwork Princess,” which was accepted into the prestigious website, animationtorrent.com. *Elizabeth (Voorhees) Kinchen (ASN ’04, BSN ’07)* earned an M.S. in advanced holistic nursing, 2012, and a Ph.D. in nursing, 2014, both from Florida Atlantic University. *Dr. Melissa (Goldsberry) Rice (BS ’04)* is a staff neonatologist with the Parkview Physician’s Group. *Jenny Maldonado (BS ’04, MS ’10)* won second place at the 2014 Germanfest Bake-Off. She received $100 in cash and an engraved stainless steel mixing bowl for her entry, “Apricot Almond Torte.”

2000s, cont.:

*01 Nikki (Herbert) Vanderwall (AS ’04) and Craig Vanderwall II (BA ’04)* welcomed their first child, Gianna Alyse Vanderwall, on July 21, 2014. Gianna weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and was 21 inches long. Photo credit: Jennifer Fox (BA ’06, MA ’14), owner, JFox Photography. *William Davenport (MBA ’05)* received an “Under 40” award for 2014, with his profile announced on Fort Wayne Business. *Adam Jacobowitz (BBA ’06, MSE ’09)* is a guidance counselor at Northrop High School. *Antwayn Spencer (BBA ’06)* is a market research analyst at Amazon Web Services. *Melissa (Crouch) Dotson (BA ’07, MS ’15)* is an access center specialist at Parkview Behavioral Health. *Vanessa (Bradtmiller) Mattelle (BBA ’07)* and husband Rick Mattelle welcomed their second child, Dominic Joseph, on Sept. 3, 2014. He weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 inches long. Their daughter, Philomena, was born in 2013. *Dr. Michael Bechill (BS ’08)* is an assistant professor in the biology department at USF. *Austin Cartwright (BA ’08)* had recent works shown at Defiance College, Bluffton University, The Met, and Crestwood Gallery. He was accepted into the 58th Annual June Art Exhibition at the Wassenberg Art Center. *Cara Greulich (BBA ’08)* is a human resource manager at Fox Products. *Abby Rauch (BSE ’08, MSE ’14)* is a special education teacher at Paul Harding Jr. High. In October 2013, Abby gave birth to her first child, a son, Trey. *Ben Giarmo (BSN ’09, MSN-FNP ’14)* is a family nurse practitioner at Fort Wayne Dermatology. *Erin LaCross (MSN ’09)* was accepted to the 2014-15 Leadership Fort Wayne Program. *Chris McCormick (BA ’09)* is a junior animator with the large game company, Telltale Games. *Annette Meadows (BS ’09)* is an assistant professor of school counseling at USF. *Sam Miles (BBA ’09)* is a freight broker at Buchanan Hauling & Rigging.
2010s:

Tony Drysdale (BBA ’10, MBA ’13) is now an assistant corporate operations manager at TFC Fleet, Federal Companies. *Charles Duckwall (BBA ’10) is account manager at Stryker Medical. *Ethan Ross (BA ’10) received an MFA in photography from Kendall College of Art and Design in 2014. *T.J. Bechill (BS ’11) is a sales engineer at Sweetwater Sound. *Kendra (Ousley) Manns (BSN ’11) is an RN at Lutheran Hospital. *Reneta Thurairatnam (MBA ’11) is a vice president and wealth adviser at Lake City Bank. *Kevin Dawson (BS ’12, MBA ’15) is a customer representative at Lincoln Financial and assistant men’s basketball coach at USF. *Meghan Flanary (BA ’12) works at the Attorney General’s Department of Justice Office of Consumer Protection & Victim Services/AmeriCorp in Montana. *Patrick Gainer (BA ’12) received an MFA from California College of Arts in 2014. *William Kammel (BS ’12, MS ’15) is a PA-C at Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Michigan. *Kevin Leigh-Manuell (BA ’12) received an MFA from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in 2014. *Kevin Bloom (BBA ’13) is an account executive for the Fort Wayne Mad Ants. *Blayke Kaufman (BA ’13) won a gold Addy for “Trinket Troubles,” a 3D animation he created, and is a motion graphic designer at Blue Pony. *Elizabeth Goings (BA ’14) was accepted into Sotheby’s Institute of Art in London and plans to pursue a master’s in fine and decorative art. *Kautilin Jinnings (BBA ’14) works in accounts payable at Jinnings Equipment LLC. *Scott Kohne (BBA ’14) is a recruitment account executive in the advertising department at Fort Wayne Newspapers. *Meghan Kuhn (BSE ’14) teaches in the Elwood Community Schools Corporation. *Rebekah McClain (BSW ’14) is a program aide at the Boys & Girls Club—Brookmill. *Troy Shaffer (MBA ’14) is a corporate responsibility officer in the St. Vincent Health System. *Thea Smekens (BA ’14) is assistant coordinator of residential life at Tennessee Technological University.

2010s, cont.:

*Lexxi Spragg (BA ’14) is a teller and special projects coordinator at The Fountain Trust Company. *Meghan Thomas (BS ’14) is an ophthalmic assistant at Eye Physician’s Inc. *Kelly Biedron (MS ’15) is a PA-C at Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Michigan. *Benjamin Busuito (MS ’15) is a PA-C at Hamilton Community Health Network in Michigan. *Emily Cain (MS ’15) is a physician assistant at Chest Physician Consultants in Munster, Indiana. *Justin Canul (MBA ’15) is a professor at Huntington University. *Riley Hooke’s (MS ’15) is a PA at FastMed Urgent Care in Gilbert, Arizona. *Erika Hurley (MS ’15) is a physician assistant in orthopedic surgery at the Mayo Clinic Health Systems in Fairmont, Minnesota. *Marcus Jarnus (MBA ’15) is a customer service manager at BAE Systems, Inc. *Rebecca Knuth (MBA ’15) is an internal retirement consultant at Lincoln Financial Group. *Tyler Larson (MS ’15) is a PA-C at Premier Physicians Services in Dayton, Ohio. *Kayla Latz (MS ’15) is a physician assistant at Parkview. *Amy Long (MSE ’15) works at Brenwood Elementary in Fort Wayne Community Schools. *Keith Lowe (MS ’15) is a physician assistant at Parkview Regional Medical Center. *Justin Marzean (MA ’15) is a physician assistant surgical resident at Johns Hopkins Hospital. *Mischa Story (MS ’15) is a physician assistant at Emergency Medicine of Indiana.
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**TINCAPS GAME**

**WHAT:** Alumni Family Event at TinCaps Game  
**WHERE:** Parkview Field, 1301 Ewing St., Fort Wayne  
**WHEN:** Saturday, May 30, game time 7:05 p.m.  
**FOOD:**  
1. Char-grilled burgers and hot dogs  
Half hour before the game to end of first inning  
2. Chicken breasts and wings  
End of first to end of third inning  
3. Pulled pork and smoked ribs  
End of third to end of fifth inning  
4. Apple crisp dessert  
End of fifth to end of seventh inning  
**DETAILS:** Exclusive seating: Ortho Northeast Treetops Party Area. Adults, $25, child (2-7), $15. Gates open, 5:35 p.m. Food, 6:35 p.m.  
**RSVP:** tincapsalumninight2015.eventbrite.com

**50TH YEAR REUNION**

**WHERE:** Memorial Coliseum, USF chapel and Brookside  
**WHEN:** May 2 – Recognition during USF commencement at Coliseum; reception following  
May 3, 10:30 a.m. – Mass at USF chapel, brunch at Brookside  
**DETAILS:** St. Joseph School of Nursing, Lutheran Hospital School of Nursing, Saint Francis College

**WINE TASTING**

**WHERE:** Country Heritage Winery, 185 County Road 68, Laotto, IN  
**WHEN:** March 7, 8:30-10 p.m.  
**DETAILS:** Mingle with friends while tasting various wines from the winery  
**RSVP:** alumniwineryevent2015.eventbrite.com

**ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL OF NURSING ALL YEARS REUNION**

**WHERE:** University of Saint Francis North Campus gymnasium  
**WHEN:** April 24, 6-9 p.m.  
**DETAILS:** Watch the mail for your invitation to this dinner.

**SAVE THE DATE**

Friday, September 18 – Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame Awards Celebration  
Saturday, September 19 – Homecoming Weekend  
Saturday, October 3 – USF Day at the Zoo

**WANT TO SEE MORE?**

For more information on USF alumni events, visit alumni.sf.edu/events.
The Bureau of Motor Vehicles sends a portion of the USF specialty license plate purchase to the USF Alumni Endowed Scholarship. USF students have benefited from the BMV license plate program since 2007. The scholarships assist students who might not be able to attend college otherwise.

Order at myBMV.com or at license branches. Call 260-399-8051 for more information.

University of Saint Francis specialty license plates generate funding for student scholarships.

2014 HOMECOMING RECOGNITIONS

Alumni of Achievement Award recognition  Alumni Awards recipients  Athletic Hall of Fame recipients

Front, from the left: Devon Rush ’14, School of Business; Audrey Riley ’81, ’09, School of Creative Arts; Dr. Gloria Shumanoff ’75, ’79, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and Amy Knepp ’99, ’03, School of Health Sciences. Back, from the left: Bob Lee, dean of the School of Business; Rick Cartwright, dean of the School of Creative Arts; Dr. Lance Richey, dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and Dr. Mindy Yoder, dean of the School of Health Sciences.

Front, from the left: Carol Lupke ’62, Distinguished Alumna; Sister M. Elise Kriss, OSF, USF president; and Jessica Swinford, director of alumni relations. Back, from the left: Doris Bass ’58, Distinguished Service; Danielle Collins ’11, Distinguished Young Alumna; and Antoinette Murray ’72, Honorary Alumna.

Front, from the left: Adam Longsworth, ’08, track & field; Sister M. Elise Kriss, OSF, USF president; Michelle (Martin) Nolan, ’96, women’s basketball; and Mike McCaffrey, director of athletics. Back, from the left: Mike Bair, men’s golf team; Scott Riley, men’s golf team; Mike Meehan, men’s golf team; Steve Riley, men’s golf team; Chris Leeper, men’s golf team; and Brian Kurtz ’08, football.

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Nominate for the Athletic Hall of Fame
Nominate alumni athletes for the Athletic Hall of Fame awards. Nominations can be made five years after completion of eligibility and upon receiving a college degree. Nominations are restricted to all USF alumni, coaches, trainers, USF friends, Fort Wayne media members and USF administrators. Nominations are due by March 31.

Nominate for the 2015 Alumni Awards
Nominate alumni for Distinguished Alumna/Alumnus; Young Alumna/Alumnus; Distinguished Service Alumna/Alumnus; or Honorary Alumna/Alumnus. Nominations are due by March 31.

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Nominate online at go.saintfrancis.edu/usf-alumniawards
Christmas, USF alumni-style

In mid-December USF alumni celebrated Christmas at the Yuletide Gathering, organized by the Office of Alumni Relations. More than 115 alumni of all ages and graduating classes celebrated the season with their guests at the open house at Brookside, whose traditional elegance was enhanced by the holiday decorations of local florists and designers. A special addition this year included a short horse-drawn carriage ride around campus. The flexible format allowed everyone to arrive and depart according to the needs of their individual schedules.

Meet Assistant Alumni Director
Melissa Eastman

A native of Fort Wayne, Melissa lived most of her life in Texas. While in Austin, she earned a B.A. in psychology from St. Edward’s University and worked for a high-tech company. After a number of moves, she returned to Fort Wayne a few years ago and worked for a development company seeking to improve the Haitian economy.

Melissa also volunteered at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art and local food pantries before starting her own full-service floral design and event planning business, Make It Special with Flowers LLC, in 2012. That experience in event planning will serve her well in her new position.

“I love creating events that bring people together,” Melissa says, and she’s excited about doing just that for the alumni, staff and community of the University of Saint Francis. “I look forward to cultivating those relationships to promote the university’s Franciscan values and mission.”

Jokingly, Melissa adds that she’s received much of her experience at home, where she and her husband Brian are the parents of five children. “In our family, time management and multitasking is a way of life!”

Melissa can be reached at 260-399-8051 or meastman@sf.edu.
Alumni kids attend Breakfast with St. Nicholas

Breakfast with St. Nicholas drew a record number of alumni, families and friends to the North Campus for the traditional festivities. Over 160 people partook of a bountiful breakfast and then moved from station to station to enjoy crafts, games and activities. Grandparents, parents, kids, grandkids, friends and neighbors enjoyed learning about the European tradition of St. Nicholas, visiting with one another and having pictures taken with St. Nicholas, who is played each year at this alumni holiday favorite by USF’s Dr. Larry Wiedman.

Zoo Day always a favorite

Under beautiful September skies, the USF Day at the Zoo drew a large crowd. More than 690 alumni, family members and friends joined the fun at the award-winning Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo. Attendees enjoyed lunch on the Foellinger Theatre lawn, as well as balloon artist demonstrations, basketball hoop and jungle slide inflatables, photo booth and a children’s entertainer. The festive spirit continued inside the zoo as families viewed animals in their habitats and took complimentary train, skylift, carousel and river rides. This fall, USF Day at the Zoo is on Saturday, Oct. 3. Be sure to save the date!
Prepared? Your gifts make sure they are.

The Annual Fund touches every student, every program, every day. Help prepare the next class for the future. To make a gift, call 260-399-8007 or go online to sf.edu/give.