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# THE HILLTOPPER

25

YEAR CLUB  
SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND HONORS  
LEGENDS



FIRST IMPRESSIONS  
LEADERSHIP<sup>3</sup>  
GRID IRON  
CONNECTIONS

FALL 2013



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Dear Marshall Community,

The sun shines through the chapel windows, a few of our youngest students raise hands to shield the light from their eyes, the chamber choir ensemble greets us all by singing "You are the New Day." With that, a chapel service opens the new school year and provides us with a quintessential Marshall moment. As the older students encourage the younger students to add their stories to Marshall's wonderful history, I know this is the type of magic that makes us all proud to be a part of the Hilltopper family.

The ensemble, itself, is Marshall Magic. Two members are from our international community and, although we are just weeks into the school year, this global group has already come together in harmony. Two members are wearing football jerseys and a third wears a Hogan's Heroes t-shirt, celebrating the leadership of football coach Jim Hogan, who embodies the characteristics of the other great coaches who have helped shape our athletic program and its participants.

A community is no more than a collection of its stories, and I am certain the young children at chapel will add a beautiful chapter to the compendium that is Marshall's history and legacy.

This edition of The Hilltopper, my first as a contributor, celebrates the sharing of stories both past and present. It is my wish to begin my tenure with a nod to this theme. Not too long ago, I asked a very special group of people, the teachers who are serving or have served our community for twenty-five years or longer, to tell me their stories so that I may use their wisdom and experience as a compass to chart the future of this great school. We feature that conversation in this edition and add other stories that highlight living connections to our past.

Marshall Chaplain Dr. Lon Weaver concluded our opening chapel with some beautiful thoughts, including a line from the poet Mary Oliver, that reminded us to make the most of the life we are given. Because the young students with the sun in their eyes have the Marshall community on their side, they are equal to the charge of making the most of things. They are certain to draw upon and honor our heritage as they add to the wonderful Hilltopper story.

Kevin Breen  
*Head of School*

# M

### THE HILLTOPPER

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The Hilltopper is published for alumni, current and past parents, grandparents, and friends of Marshall School and Duluth Cathedral High School.

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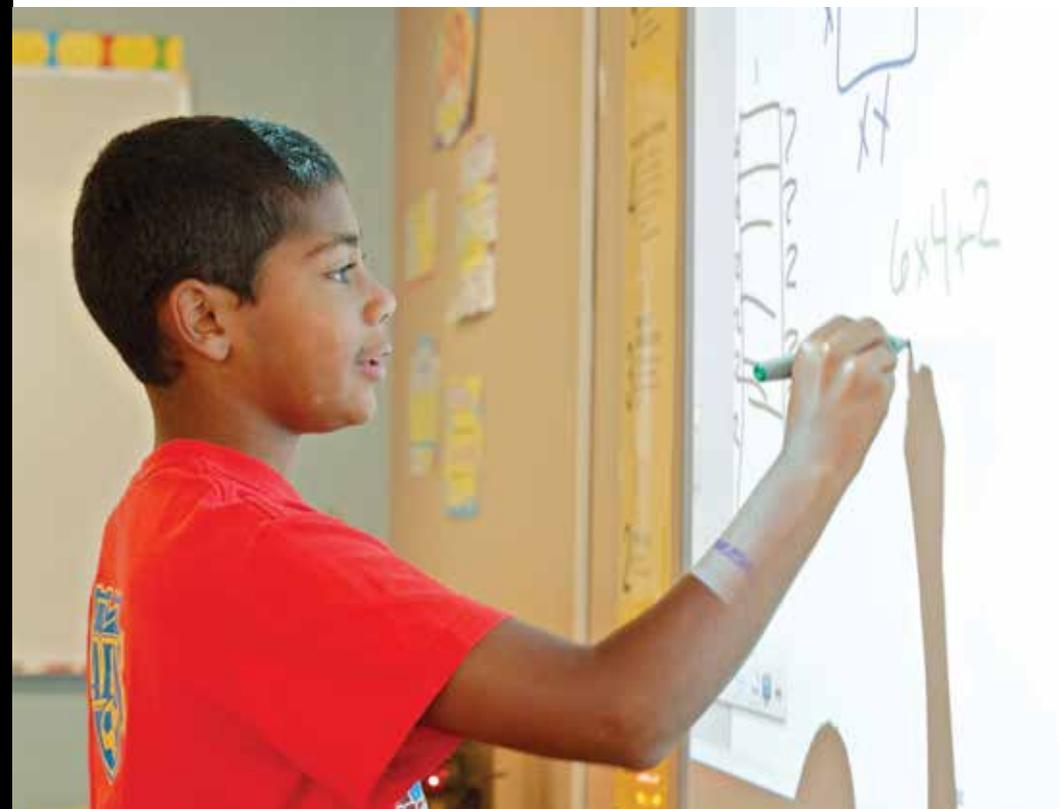
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## CAMPUS NEWS

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## Join Marshall Board



### JON AAMODT

Jon is a native Duluthian who lives in Duluth with his wife Paula and two children, Lily and Sam. Jon received his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Michigan Technological University in 1991. In 1997, Jon formed Northland Consulting

Engineers in Duluth and has since served as Principal Partner and Structural Engineer.

Jon is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Concrete Institute, and is a charter member of the Structural Engineering Institute. He is a past board member of the Duluth Builders Exchange, the Duluth Boys and Girls Club, the Duluth Girls Hockey Association, and the Duluth Western Little League. He enjoys hunting, fishing, watersports and coaching youth athletics. Jon notes, "I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve with such a great group of intelligent and energetic people who care deeply for the school, the kids and the community."

Marshall's Board has elected two new members to join the eighteen-person group, which oversees the school's regular operation and strategic direction.

"Marshall is fortunate to have such a talented, versatile and dedicated Board," said Head of School Kevin Breen. "We are pleased to welcome Beth and Jon to the team. Beth brings a wealth of academic experience and insight, while Jon's background in engineering along with his deep and varied connections to the Duluth community can only strengthen the group."



### BETH DOMHOLDT

Beth is Vice President for Academic Affairs at The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota. Beth came to The College of St. Scholastica in 2005 as a visible scholar and leader within the profession of physical therapy, having served as Professor and Dean of the

Krannert School of Physical Therapy at the University of Indianapolis for more than 20 years. She holds a bachelor's degree in physical therapy from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in Health Occupations Education from Indiana University, and a doctoral degree in Higher Education, also from Indiana University.

Beth states, "Joining the Marshall School Board was a natural fit for me because of the synergies that already exist between St. Scholastica and Marshall—we are physical neighbors; we are partners in the Mars Arena; and we both offer high-quality, personalized private educations to students who come from a wide range of family backgrounds. I've already learned things from Marshall that I've brought back to my work at St. Scholastica, and I hope my expertise in higher education will be of service to the Board and the wider Marshall community of students, parents, staff, and teachers."



## Honor Code

This summer, as part of Marshall's mission "to educate students to become global citizens who demonstrate strong academic habits, respect, compassion, integrity, self-discipline, and intellectual curiosity," twenty upper school students were invited to develop an honor code for the Marshall community.

They learned about the importance of an honor code and the difference it can make in a school community. After researching dozens of honor codes from schools around the country, they created the Marshall School Honor Code, which is being introduced to students this fall.

An honor code describes the ethical standards in a community and can address specific values and behaviors. Honor codes traditionally address academic work, and students take an active role in affirming that their work will be honorable.

Students will take part in pledging and signing ceremonies during second semester. An official kick-off in January will feature keynote speaker Bobby Vogel '04, who has a powerful and empowering message about how honor and academic decisions have affected his life.

### MARSHALL SCHOOL HONOR CODE

**OPENING STATEMENT** Marshall School is committed to the creation of an environment in which trust, civility, and the pursuit of knowledge can flourish. We believe that dishonesty, theft, and cheating compromise a student's academic achievement and this school community.

**PLEDGE STATEMENT** I vow to uphold and protect the integrity of Marshall School by being a respectful and honest student who refrains from lying, cheating, and stealing, not only academically but in the Marshall School community as a whole.



## Spring 2013 Athletic Honors

### DEREK FARRELL *Golf*

Section 7A Champion  
State Participant  
Lake Superior Conference  
All-Conference First Team

### JACK DODD *Tennis*

State Participant, Singles  
Lake Superior Conference  
All-Conference, Singles

### KILLIAN MCKEE & LUKE DOW *Tennis*

Lake Superior Conference  
All-Conference, Doubles





**BRANDON NEBLETT**

*Upper School Principal*

**Born** Maryland

**Favorite Food** Chocolate

**Favorite Duluth Spot** Lakewalk

**Family** Married to Hilary, children

Aurora 3, Harrison 3, Kyle 6 months

**KAREN SNYDER**

*Associate Head of School, Middle School Principal*

**Born** Hawaii

**Favorite Food** Sushi

**Favorite Duluth Spot** Canal Park

**Family** Married to Kevin, children

Kaitlyn 14, Kevin "KC" 13

**KEVIN BREEN**

*Head of School*

**Born** Massachusetts

**Favorite Food** Pizza

**Favorite Duluth Spot** Amity Creek

**Family** Married to Dana, children

Matthew 14, Caitlin 11

# Leadership<sup>3</sup>

Kevin Breen, Marshall's new Head of School, Brandon Neblett, Marshall's new Upper School Principal, and Karen Snyder, Marshall's Associate Head of School and Middle School Principal, recently gathered around a conference table to share their ideas about education, students and independent schools. There was a lot of laughter and a shared sense of camaraderie among these three educators, who have a combined 70-plus years of experience working with students. Below are excerpts of their conversation.



*Head of School Kevin Breen*

**What is your favorite thing about independent schools?**

**KEVIN** I like drop off—kids getting out of cars with violins and hockey sticks and posters and reports and excitedly running into the building.

**BRANDON** No fear about saying that we are about values, first and foremost. Education is about human relationships. We're a community that's going to take that really seriously.

**KAREN** I like the sense of community, the ability to talk about ethical and potentially controversial ideas, and permeable walls for students—a football playing, chamber-singing tenor who stars on stage. Students are invited and encouraged to try things in search of their passions.

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*Associate Head of School and Middle School  
Principal Karen Snyder*

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**What is a particularly memorable thing a student has said to you in your career?**

**KAREN** In my early years of serving as Marshall's Middle School Principal a student said, "We weren't afraid of getting in trouble, we were more worried about disappointing you." These kids cared about what the school cared about—high expectations. They didn't want to let people down.

**KEVIN** As a young teacher I worked with a class of adult learners and eventually got a letter from a woman who was learning to read and write. She wrote a letter about how much it meant to her to be able to do so. She was in her sixties, and it was the first thing she'd ever written.

**BRANDON** I taught at a brand-new school, and when the first seniors graduated, one of them said to me, "When I think of this school, I think of you." He was reflecting the shared experience we had had, being new and working together to make the school successful through building strong relationships.

**Each of you has shared powerful stories from your time in schools. What is the importance of stories when working with students?**

**KEVIN** I was struck at the Golden Topper Luncheon this past July, when 53 years later, alumni were telling stories like they happened yesterday. Stories transport you back to your school, as if you're walking the halls again. It transports alumni back to a special place.

**BRANDON** School is an experience. It's not about what AP course you are taking or scoring well on SATs or getting into a certain college. It's about a holistic experience you have, really influenced by the relationships you develop. The best stories are about relationships. We shape the outlook of these students. They're going to look back upon their experience here as a collection of stories.

**KAREN** Understanding students' stories is so important. All kids want to do well. If they're not doing well they have a reason, they just don't know who's willing to really listen. Knowing students' stories is incredibly powerful in being able to effect change.



*Upper School Principal Brandon Neblett*

**What advice do you have for parents?**

**BRANDON** The value of a student's education is in the distance the student travels between who they were when they entered school and who they are when they leave. The more fumbings and failures along the way, the more growth. Embrace that adversity.

**KAREN** I like to remind parents about the importance of resilience—the value of working through a struggle. Helping children identify options, working with teachers to identify potential solutions, and modeling the problem solving process is a valuable life lesson. I also like to remind parents children want boundaries despite their repulsive reaction to them. We all like to know where the out-of-bounds lines are so we can make decisions accordingly.

**KEVIN** Parents mean more to their children than they know. Children want to connect with their parents. Kids want parents' attention and involvement and want to please them. I encourage parents to find the joy in their child's journey.

**What is your hope for Marshall students?**

**KEVIN** To gain confidence and courage with a moral compass.

**BRANDON** Don't be afraid to be yourself.

**KAREN** To find themselves and find a passion. By trying so many new things, the opportunity presents itself to find something that really matters. In independent schools, students can try all kinds of different things. 



**Marshall Welcomes  
Joe Wicklund  
Five things the New  
Director of Enrollment  
wants you to know!**

1. He is loving this new job!
2. For more information about Marshall School, visit [marshallschool.org](http://marshallschool.org) and contact him and/or Enrollment Coordinator Amy Geissler. They're super friendly!
3. You can tour the school anytime. Call Joe or Amy!
4. Applications for the 2014-15 academic year are available at [marshallschool.org](http://marshallschool.org).
5. People are often surprised by the amount of financial aid available at Marshall (over \$1 million!). It's worth exploring if Marshall is an option for your family.

# First Impressions

By Joe Wicklund



Briana Anderson '14 and Jake Fugere '14

There is a great deal riding on first impressions—whether it is love at first sight or the far other end of the spectrum. The importance of these initial experiences holds just as true when thinking about a new building for a school.

“When you think of the footprint of old Cathedral High School on Fourth Street—the tall, narrow, skinny building with all those stairs,” Sue (Oswald) Anderson '64 says, “then you realize that coming to this new school was literally a really big change.”

**“I noticed how the people and teachers were so friendly.”**

Cathedral High School moved from its location in downtown Duluth on the corner of Second Avenue West and Fourth Street up the hill to the current Rice Lake Road campus in 1963.

“It was totally different moving from that old building to the new school,” Bob Anderson '64 says. “It was a lot easier to get around school with more space, like the auditorium and gym, but it was certainly a change.”

The old, downtown school building served as the scene for Bob and Sue's first date. The event was dubbed ‘The Last Hurrah,’ and the early February dance in 1963 was as much a send-off for the Cathedral building as it was a high school dance.

Now, more than 50 years later, two things remain the same; there are still magical moments and fabulous first impressions at the school, and Bob and Sue Anderson are still together just a few blocks from the Marshall campus.

While the campus has certainly grown in terms of facilities and opportunities for students since its first years in the early 1960s, some of those same first impressions about the freedom that comes with having space are the same today.

“I thought the school was really nice and that there was space to move because it wasn't overpopulated,” current senior Jake Fugere said. “But what I really noticed was when the bell rang to go to class, there was nobody in the hallway; everyone went to class. At my previous school, everyone was still out in the hallway. It was obvious right away that everyone here was ready and willing to learn.”

Fugere became a Hilltopper in ninth grade and four years later, he doesn't want his Marshall experience to come to a close.



Tucker D'Allaird '22 and Ayaan Mallack '22

“I realized on the first day this year that this was my last ‘first day of school,’” Fugere said. “I couldn't help but think, ‘Wow, I don't want this to be over.’”

From Hilltoppers who called Cathedral home to those who will receive their diploma this spring, the shared experiences exist across the years. And for those just having their initial ‘first day of school’ this fall, the connection to Marshall and its wonderful community is just beginning.

“I was kind of anxious and kind of excited because I knew it was going to be a different type of school,” new ninth grader Dominic Romagnoli said. “But I got into the swing of things fast and both the teachers and students were a big help.”

Romagnoli's experience of abundant support and a truly welcoming community is very much the norm at Marshall.

For senior Briana Anderson, it is the first thing she remembers about Marshall, and the part that she feels will stay with her long after she graduates this spring.

“Of course everyone says it about Marshall, but it is true how welcoming everyone is here,” Briana says. “Everybody is connected and everyone is friendly.”

“You simply have opportunities and experiences at Marshall that you wouldn't have at other schools,” Briana says. “For example, I spent three months in Brazil, played volleyball and won gold medals in their version of the state championship, and made some great friends.”

While college is next for Briana and her classmates, Marshall's fourth graders are just beginning their journey at the school. Their first impressions might be the most precious of all.

“I was in awe,” Sam Anderson said. “The school is so big.”

“I was nervous and wasn't sure who was going to be my friends,” Ayaan Mallack said. “But then I saw a bunch of my friends as soon as I walked through the doors and I've kept making more.”

“I noticed how the people and teachers were so friendly,” Jasper Timm said.

“The food is so awesome,” Tucker D'Allaird said.

“I was sad because my best friend wasn't coming with me,” Ethan Hargrove said. “But then I started meeting all kinds of new friends right away, so it was great.”

“I thought it was so big,” Anja Kuhlke said. “And the floors were perfect for rollerblading.”

Whether you were the seventh Oswald to go to Cathedral or a brand-new Hilltopper joining Marshall for fourth grade this year, there are certain impressions already ingrained in many students' heads before their first step on to Marshall's campus.

“I was excited to come here,” said current fourth grader Joe Perry-Spears. “I knew this was an awesome school filled with awesome people.” 



LEFT  
Bob Anderson '64



BELOW  
Sue (Oswald)  
Anderson '64

The Hilltopper

25

# TWENTY FIVE YEAR CLUB

*By Joe Wicklund*

As we know in Minnesota, the best way to draw great stories out of people is to gather them around a campfire. The better the fire, the better the stories.

If this is true, Dave Homstad '72, former Hilltopper teacher, coach and Athletic Director, produced one of the best campfires in Hilltopper history, as several members of the 25 Year Club (faculty and staff who served Cathedral/Marshall for 25 or more years) joined Head of School Kevin Breen for dinner and dazzling stories in Homstad's backyard in late September.

"I wanted to do this for three important reasons," Breen said. "The first was to get these great people and teachers together and hear their stories; the second was because I heard Dave Homstad is a great cook; and finally because I wanted people to be sure they knew teaching wasn't invented last year."

The thought that teaching was invented within the last year or two can be a common thread at schools these days.

Marshall has successfully implemented a 1:1 technology program while maintaining its belief teaching is still an art that requires talented practitioners in the classroom. No group understands this better than those who taught Hilltoppers for more than 25 years. Gathered in Homstad's backyard on a beautiful, starry evening spinning tales to Breen were Tom Diener (science), Larry Weber (science), Fred Sippel (history and social studies), Julie Ball (language arts and social studies), Joe Giesen (English and administrator), Chico Anderson (Chaplain, religious and ethical studies, currently Chaplain Emeritus), and Homstad (English, coach, Athletic Director).

From buckets filling with water from the leaky roof to filling students' hearts and minds with more than 200 combined years of teaching experience, the stories these seven inspiring teachers trade with each other are not about educational philosophies. Instead, the stories are woven together the same way they are around the table at reunions between Hilltopper classmates; old friends getting together to reminisce and remember others.

Cathedral, then Marshall, was a place made great by the work of these long-tenured teachers; a fact not lost on a group of impassioned Hilltopper alumni who worked together to celebrate these inspirational mentors with a scholarship all their own.

"There were a number of kids who we helped with money out of our own wallets and pockets," Anderson said. "We wanted to see those kids make it through, make it work, and be at Marshall."

It is exactly that type of student who will be served by the recently endowed 25 Year Club Scholarship. It took, and will continue to take, a strong commitment of giving to continue the success of this new scholarship. But that type of giving has seemingly always been a part of the Hilltopper culture.

"There are two incredible sources of pride in the history of our school," Breen said. "The buckets catching the leaks from the roof and the money people took out of their own wallets to make it work."

Although much of the financial assistance was behind the scenes at that time, the buckets were always noticeable.

"There were," Sippel joked, "a lot of buckets."

Among this much-tenured group, Sippel may serve as a bit of the gregarious giant, but he was quick to fondly remember someone he felt was an even bigger personality—Frank Napoli, longtime physical education teacher, coach and Athletic Director.

"He was a legend," Sippel said. "All over town people would come up to me and ask, 'Is Frank still up there and would you tell him so-and-so said hello?'"

The Napoli stories are many, and they range from the heartwarming to the unbelievable.

"I was afraid of Frank when I first started," Ball said. "But then Sr. Victorine said I shouldn't be because he was just a big puppy."



Napoli wasn't the only teacher who was both scary and beloved at the same time by students. Homstad distinctly remembers Giesen literally chasing students in the hallway when they stepped out of line.

"Things were a little different back then when it was a Catholic school," Homstad said. "But Joe Giesen was still such an incredible English teacher."

Giesen remembers a school filled with change, but also deeply focused on the individual student. "We were always far more liberal and on the forefront of all the social issues," Giesen said. "Leaders will always be needed for change, but those were tough years making that transition to an independent school."

All remember those years fondly, even though there were plenty of fears that came with those times.

"There were some hard years, but those were the years we really loved," Anderson said. "It was challenging when you thought that every assembly in the gym is where we might find out if the school is closing."

They share stories of being asked to wait to cash their paychecks when paid by the school. They also share stories of how small those checks were in comparison to today. Giesen noted that he started making about \$5,000 per year when he began teaching in the mid-1960s.

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## SCHOLARSHIP FULLY ENDOWED

In the spring of 2012, as Chico Anderson and Dave Homstad prepared to retire, alumni rallied to recognize the outstanding contribution of these two men to the Hilltopper community. First, alumni created Facebook groups to share stories and express their gratitude directly to Chico and Dave. Overwhelmingly, alumni shared the desire to do more.

When asked permission to start a scholarship fund in their name, both men asked for the honor to extend beyond themselves to include all faculty/staff who have served the Hilltopper community for 25 years or more. Hence, the Hilltopper 25 Year Club was born.

**This prestigious club consists of the following**

**Chico Anderson**  
**Julie Ball**  
**Sister Cecilia**  
**Tom Diener**  
**Martha Firling**  
**Joe Giesen**  
**Linda Gross**  
**Ken Hansen**  
**Msgr. Hogan**  
**Dave Homstad '72**  
**Sister Mary Catherine**  
**Frank Napoli**  
**Nance O'Brien '75**  
**Sharon Rolle**  
**Fred Sippel**  
**John Sorman**  
**Sister Victorine**  
**Carol Vos**  
**Larry Weber**  
**Barry Wolfe**

The fund will provide scholarships to students in need who embody that special Hilltopper 'magic' and involve themselves fully in the life of the school. Within a mere sixteen months, alumni and supporters raised \$50,000, the minimum amount to endow a named fund. The first scholarship of the 25 Year Club Scholarship will be named for the 2014-15 academic year.

**Celebrate 25 Year Club members and the scholarship in their honor on November 20, 6:30-7:30 PM, Marshall School Chapel.**

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In their hearts though, all seven are still teachers. Ball and Diener are still at Marshall today, while many others are still very active in University for Seniors at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Despite all the years and the breadth of experience, what might be most impressive is how many individual students are still so much front-and-center in the minds of these educators. While students may certainly remember a few of their favorite teachers, they might be surprised at how many of those teachers remember a vast number of their students.

"Keith Thorson was a big kid and very interesting," Giesen said. "He was kind of a unique character, like me, so we hit it off."

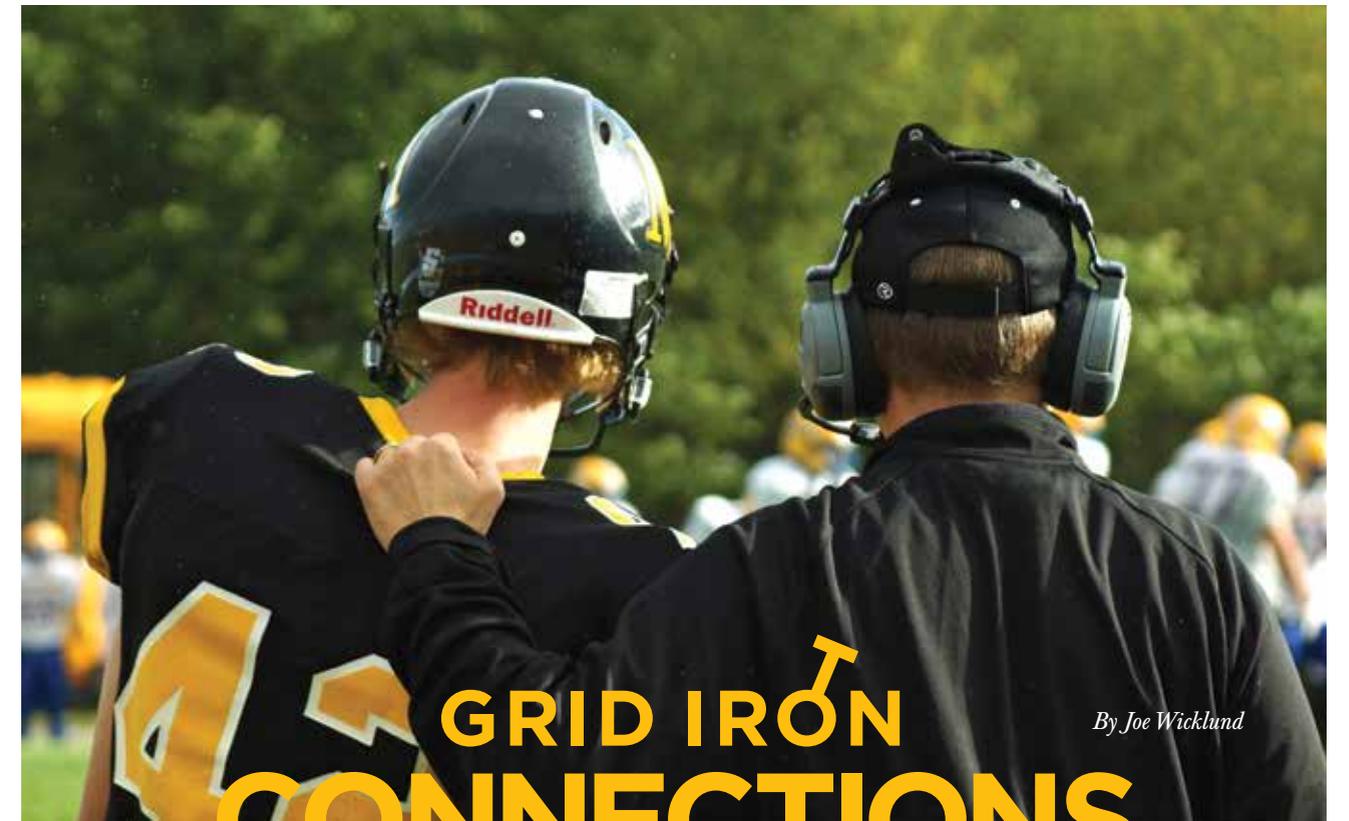
Thorson, in turn, was one of the alumni, in partnership with Mari Casserberg '90, who helped lead the charge in creating the 25 Year Club Scholarship Fund.

Anderson has seen the full spectrum of life experiences in his role, overseeing baptisms, weddings and funerals for his students and fellow Hilltoppers. And if not an individual, these teachers certainly remember when families moved through in large numbers.

"There were a lot of great families, like the Serre family," Sippel said. "For a while it felt like they always had someone in the senior class, which was great because they had these incredible pig roasts at the graduation parties."

Long after the final festivities of graduation have been completed, it is inspiring to know that students are still on the minds of their mentors ... even after thirty or more years. Then again, maybe it should not be a surprise as it is the ability to deeply connect on a meaningful level that is a big part of what makes a teacher great. Marshall and Cathedral have been blessed to have had a large number of these great teachers.

"Great teachers are the ones who make it 20, 25 and 30-plus years," Breen said. "They are not just hiding behind the glitz of a new fad; they are a huge part of the lives of their students." ■



## GRID IRON CONNECTIONS

*By Joe Wicklund*



To say Hilltopper football has evolved over the last seventy years would be an understatement. From the style of play to the use of technology in today's game, the differences are dramatic. Even the name of the school and the colors of the Hilltopper uniforms have changed.

But what is most important to those who have been a part of football at Marshall and Cathedral is what remains the same—great people, great coaches, and incredible memories.

"It is an honor to get to coach these students at this school, with all of its history," said Jim Hogan, Marshall's head football coach. "I personally believe that when the football team is competitive, it does something positive for the entire school and its spirit."

It hasn't taken long for Hogan to build a competitive team at Marshall. In his first season, the Hilltoppers posted a record of 7-4, including a pair of home playoff wins before falling in the section semifinal contest to the eventual 2012 state runner-up.

But for Hogan—like many of the great football coaches in Hilltopper history, including John Vucinovich, Frank Napoli and Dave Homstad '72—it's not all about winning.

"You can win a ton of games, but this is about so much more than X's and O's," Hogan said. "We are learning about respect, building character and much more. A lot of these lessons we are teaching are already being taught by the parents and by Marshall. They are not new; we are just using football to draw these lessons out in a different way."

For Hogan it isn't limited to the lessons of a single situation, practice, or game. He even attaches a thematic approach to frame the entire season for his players.

"We have a theme each year," Hogan said. "This year, the theme is, 'It's Not About Me,' which helps us all understand that it isn't about what any individual player wants or what position they want to play, but what is best for the whole team."

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Frank Michelizzi, a 1943 Cathedral graduate and member of the football team, echoed Hogan's sentiment about the life lessons football taught him more than seven decades earlier.

"Football was a very big thing at Cathedral, and we used to fill up the stands at Public School Stadium, especially when our little school would beat Central and Denfeld once in a while," Michelizzi said. "It was pretty incredible when you consider the size of both our school and our team that we would beat those larger schools, but it was about much more than just football at that time."

At 90 years old, Michelizzi is still quick with his smiles and stories of his love for the Hilltoppers. It is obvious, though, when you hear him speak of Coach Vucinovich, how much respect and love Michelizzi had for his coach.

"He was a great man and a great coach who loved his players," Michelizzi said. "Even the worst player still played and had a role on the team because Coach felt it was only fair if they took all those bumps and bruises in practice."

In some ways, 70 years later, it is the same way that the current Hilltoppers describe their coach.

"Coach Hogan is a hard-nosed coach, the entire coaching staff is as well, but that is a good thing for us," junior running back Jordan Fralich said. "But more than anything we know that Coach Hogan cares for us, that he puts the team first and that he puts us all in positions where we can do well."

Looking back seven decades, Michelizzi had an important Hogan of his own—Father Hogan at Cathedral.

Father Hogan, who began his teaching in 1942 and who would later serve as Monsignor Hogan, was important to several Hilltoppers, especially considering some of those at Cathedral were called to serve their country before their name was even called to receive their high school diploma.

"Father Hogan wrote letters and worked to make sure we could stay in school and graduate before going off to war," Michelizzi said. "As soon as we graduated though, we were marching down Superior Street to board the 'troop train' to join the war."

Joining Michelizzi and other Hilltoppers on that train, and suddenly on a much more important team, were some of the opposing football players from other local schools.

Michelizzi eventually made his way back to Duluth, making a career in the grocery business. Vucinovich coached at Cathedral until 1949, and Monsignor Hogan would serve as the principal of Cathedral until 1963.

As so often happens among Hilltoppers, there is a family connection between then and now. Monsignor Hogan is Coach Hogan's great uncle. "I met him once or twice while I was young," Coach Jim Hogan said. "All I know of him is what I have heard from other people—that he was a tough disciplinarian. I do know this though, he was a Hogan and he had the Irish fighting spirit that all of us Hogans seem to have."

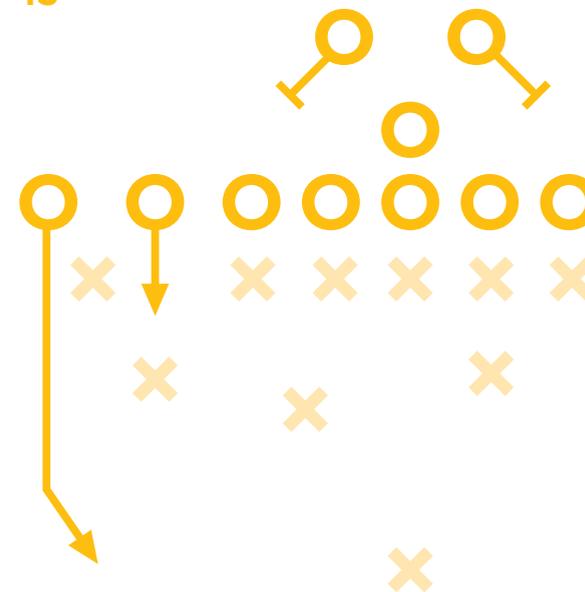
Few can doubt the care that both Hogans—the Monsignor and the Coach—have in creating important growth experiences for young people.

"Cathedral was such a great school and a great time, and the memories of that place still live on in the minds of all the kids who went to Cathedral," Michelizzi said. "But I am also so thankful to be connected to Marshall, because if it hadn't been for this school all of us Cathedral graduates would be like orphans."

JORDAN FRALICH '15



FRANK MICHELIZZI '43



Coach Hogan understands deeply the importance those memories and experiences can have on young people and the shaping impact it can have as they move into adulthood.

"It is a little bit about football, but a lot about life, and those that are listening and hearing that message on this journey will certainly get it," Hogan said.

While today's players, like Fralich, may not wear the same purple-and-gold uniforms of a previous era, they are connected to Frank Michelizzi in the shared experiences and life lessons taught by great mentors and coaches. And while the game has changed, Fralich and Michelizzi are even a little bit connected in the style of play and physical build of their teams.

"We were usually the smaller, undersized team, but we were scrappy, well coached and we could run the ball," Michelizzi said. "But we had a great reputation in the city of Duluth because of our performances and the wonderful things that happened at our school."

Despite more than 70 years between then and now, very little has changed. "The why we do what we do," Fralich said, "is really about becoming great men." **M**

## THE HILLTOPPER ALUMNI COUNCIL

### MEMBERS

Frank Befera '84  
Michelle Buria '89  
Judith McKeever '78  
J. Steve Nys '98  
Ryenne Overom '96  
Paul Pedersen '87  
Molly Rathke '95  
Sam Rathke '09  
Branden Robinson '03

### MISSION

The purpose of the Hilltopper Alumni Council is to promote the participation of alumni from Duluth Cathedral High School and Marshall School in activities that support the mission of Marshall School and promote community.

### STATUS

The Alumni Council serves as an advisory board for the strategic outreach and engagement of our alumni community. While currently inactive, we are seeking to rejuvenate the council and its role in Hilltopper alumni relations.

### PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFO AND SUBMIT YOUR NEWS!

Please send current contact information and news and notes to:

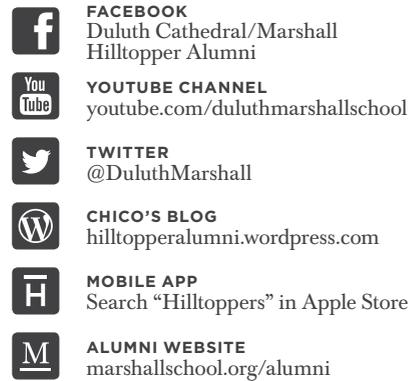
Alumni Relations  
1215 Rice Lake Road  
Duluth, MN 55811  
218-727-7266, ex. 113  
hilltopper@marshallschool.org



VISIT US AT  
[marshallschool.org](http://marshallschool.org)

# ALUMNI

The Alumni Office strives to communicate the triumphs and the challenges within the Hilltopper community. Alumni gather at games, receptions and reunions. We are a family. And, you, our alumni, are an integral part of the community. Once a Hilltopper, always a Hilltopper. Stay connected, share your stories and receive the latest news.



## Tag, You're It

Update your contact information today to stay connected.



## Download the Mobile Hilltopper Alumni App

Staying connected has never been easier! Download the free alumni app. Stay connected to Hilltoppers of yesterday and today.

### FEATURES ALLOW YOU TO

- Post pictures and news to the stream
- Find classmates in the directory
- Locate Hilltoppers nearby
- Receive Hilltopper alumni news, Chico's blog, Parent Pass blog, school news
- Hear of alumni events
- Follow Hilltopper social media—YouTube, Facebook, & Twitter
- Update your contact profile

Download in the app store by searching for Hilltoppers.

You may opt out by contacting Karen Stiles at [kstiles@marshallschool.org](mailto:kstiles@marshallschool.org) or 218-727-7266, ext. 107.



Hilltopper alumni share life lessons and reflect on their experiences as Hilltoppers and in the world. Their work is a living testimony to the portrait of a Hilltopper. Four alumni from different periods of our history, share lessons learned of compassion, integrity, resilience, fortitude, and gratitude.

## Letter from Sam Peters '09

The letter below is an informal note of gratitude written to Chico Anderson, Chaplain Emeritus, from Sam Peters '09, as prompted by reading Chico's blog. Sam mentions only a few of the many teachers who influenced him during his time at Marshall.

Hi Chico!

I see from your blog that you're doing well. As always, you capture my memories of Marshall too well. The way you remember Profe chokes me up a little every time I read it. My journals for her alternated between (what I considered) wit and some more personal entries. She responded to both with grace, either with a much funnier comment than I could still hope to come up with, or with empathy.

In response to your call for other memories of Marshall educators, both Dorothy Johns and Fred Sippel were incredible teachers who impacted me far beyond my time in their classrooms.

I can honestly tell you that I would not live in D.C. right now were it not for Mr. Sippel's ninth grade American Government class. That semester with him drove me to be interested in politics (Ms. Anderson, Ms. Alcalá, or Dr. Larson could tell you how insane I was during the 2008 campaign season. That appetite is less voracious now.). He inspired me to be interested in the Supreme Court, which drove me to study Law & Society at American University. To this day, I can explain the franking privilege only because of him.

I credit Ms. Johns with my ability to quote sources in my writing, and for being the sole reason I can read classic literature for fun. Her introduction to essay writing in Honors American Literature sophomore year was invaluable, and I used her handouts all through college. Since reading *The Sun Also Rises* with her, I have read it at least annually after graduating Marshall. I take it on every airplane I board and it is the first book I read on every vacation. She had a unique gift to make every student relate to every reading, be it *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Catcher in the Rye*, or some more obtuse transcendentalist essays.

I remember bonding with Cassaundra Carl in that class, first about our love of Lady Brett, then our adoration of Shug Avery in *The Color Purple*. Then after one outburst too many, MJ—as she told us we could call her on the first day, separated us in the next grading period's seating chart. She was also incredibly generous with her students, providing extensions in exchange for honesty, hot chocolate in exchange for good discussion, and Dairy Queen . . . just because.



I should also mention how wonderful it always was to see Dr. Larson outside of the classroom. In the time that I attended Marshall, I don't think she ever missed a single of her students' hockey games, basketball games, theatre production, or band concerts. That's the kind of dedication that made that school special.

And then there's you, Chico. I honestly had some of the most intelligent discussions about the most criterion material in your Intro to Religion class, and then in Ethics in Cinema. One of my favorite professors never failed to show a film I watched in your class. I wrote legal philosophical papers about *A Man for All Seasons* first in my Intro to Law class, and then in Western Legal Tradition. I unearthed your handouts about Plato and Socrates for three of my classes: Western Legal Tradition, Philosophical Problems in Law, and Law & Social Theory. Your classes were some of the most fun I had in high school, and to that I would credit your unique ability to foster easy and intelligent discussion.

Best,  
Sam Peters '09



## pos·i·tiv·ism, noun

Alex Cartwright '01  
Award Nominated Recording Artist & Songwriter

**POSITIVISM.** Believe it or not, it's a real word. Dictionary.com defines it as "the state or quality of being positive." I define it as my personal mantra.

Cynicism is alive and well in the USA. We know we are lucky, and we have all heard of the "power of positive thinking" and yet we complain more than any other culture. I say that breaking this trend starts with me. It starts with you. Each individual person can make the choice to live life positively and the impact is AMAZING.

Imagine walking down the street and smiling at a stranger; maybe you even say "hello" as you walk past. Now imagine for a moment that person feels like the entire world is against him. Your smile may mean everything to him.

This is what I love about being a musician. I get to practice positivism on a grand scale every time I get on a stage. You don't have to be an entertainer to make a huge impact, though.

How DO you put positivism into practice in your life? It's easy, but it does take a level of mindfulness we are not used to having. Be thankful. When you catch yourself complaining about something, try to put a positive spin on it. Make your default facial expression a smile. These steps will make not only your life miraculously better, but will transform those around you.

Have fun!

## Tough but Fair: Alumni Building a Scholarship to Honor Monsignor Hogan

Dear Cathedral Alumni,

Remember Monsignor Hogan? For some time we've been raising money for a Msgr. Hogan Scholarship Fund. To be fully endowed it must be \$50,000. The total now stands at \$44,000. We're so close; just \$6,000 to go!



Monsignor was tough, but fair, and I know in hard times somehow he managed to hold the school together for us with nothing but sheer will power, scotch tape and chewing gum! He was a good man who truly tried to do what he thought was best for all of us and his beloved Cathedral High School.

If, as the years have gone on, you've found that the successes you've had in life were due in some part to the education you received at Cathedral, please consider a donation. To all of you who have already given, many thanks for your generosity. It's truly heartwarming and inspiring.

We're aware money is tight now, but we would be ever so grateful for any amount you donate as every dollar brings us closer to our goal. Let's honor Msgr. Hogan with a scholarship fund in his name, so he will be remembered for many years to come. Please send your contribution at your earliest convenience to Marshall School and mark it "Msgr. Hogan."

Thank You and God Bless,  
Joanne Newman '52  
redondoredhead@aol.com

### Give Today

Pay tribute to your classmates and teachers by making a gift today. Support the Annual Fund or designate your gift to a special fund.

 [marshallschool.org/giving](http://marshallschool.org/giving)

 218-727-7266, ex. 113

 Marshall School, 1215 Rice Lake Road, Duluth, MN 55811

## Upcoming Events

### RECEPTION TO HONOR THE 25 YEAR CLUB MEMBERS

November 20, 2013  
6:30–7:30 pm  
*Chapel*

### THANKSGIVING CHAPEL

November 27, 2013  
11:10–11:45 am  
*Fregeau Auditorium*

### ALL ALUMNI RECEPTION & COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS TO MARSHALL BOYS HOCKEY

December 14, 2013  
*Mars Lakeview Arena*  
Marshall vs International Falls  
2:15–4 pm Reception  
3:00 pm Puck Drop  
Special Recognition of Alumni Hockey Players

### HOLIDAY CHAPEL & ALUMNI RECEPTION

December 20, 2013  
2:10–4 pm  
*Chapel/Dining Hall*

### ALL ALUMNI RECEPTION & COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS TO MARSHALL BOYS BASKETBALL

Friday, December 20  
Marshall vs Two Harbors  
6:30 pm Reception, *Chapel*  
7:15 pm Game Time, *Gym*

### ALUMNI GAMES

Saturday, December 21  
Reception to follow at *Blackwoods Hockey*  
*Mars Lakeview Arena*  
2:30–3:45 pm 60s/70s vs 80s  
4:00–5:15 pm 90s vs 00s/10s  
**Womens & Mens Basketball**  
*Marshall*  
4:00–5:15 pm



### PLEASE RSVP FOR EVENTS

vicky.galarowicz@marshallschool.org  
218-727-7266, ex. 113



## A Time to Bushwhack and a Time to Backtrack

By Fred Sproat '06

It doesn't take much for situations to turn nasty in the natural world. Calm lakes grow angry, rivers buck with whitewater, and mountain weather rolls in unexpectedly. For five summers, I lived with these daily uncertainties while guiding canoeing and backpacking trips. From the Boundary Waters to the Canadian Rockies to the Arctic Ocean, I grew accustomed to waking up unsure of what would happen between where I ate breakfast and where I cooked dinner. There was always a plan, but never the guarantee of sticking to it.

To truly thrive and not just survive in the outdoors, I quickly learned when it was time to buckle down and push through and when I had to adapt and rethink an approach. Giving up was never an option.

And though the sorts of situations we experience in our average lives are far less committing than those that happen in the wild, we still draw on our ability to create alternative solutions or trust our gut and stick to the course. It's a fine line, but one that's learned in a place where risks are encouraged, failures reflected on, and success is celebrated. For me, Marshall was just such the place.

## News & Notes



The inaugural **Elizabeth Busche '11** Memorial Golf Tournament was held on September 15 at Enger Park in Duluth. The tournament raised funds for Charlene's Light, a foundation dedicated to building awareness of ovarian cancer. Elizabeth, daughter of Keane '74 and Jane Busche, passed away in May of 2012.

**Ella Fox '11** is studying abroad in Paris for the semester.

**Michael Kanoff '11** attends University of Miami and hosts a weekly radio broadcast on WVUM. The program, called Counterpoint, is on Friday from 12:00–1:00 pm CDT and consists of 3–4 University of Miami students, and guest speakers, discussing current events.

**Aemilii Melby '10** received the Mary O. Graham Scholarship to study and teach in Costa Rica.

**Tessa Gollinger '07** writes, "my son Logan James Carpenter was born on August 7, 2013, sharing a birthday with his grandpa Paul Gollinger '72.

**Lisa Moline '07** married Justin Filzen in Hermantown, MN.

**Zach Schneider '06** was promoted to sports anchor and producer for KBJR 6/KDLH 3 in Duluth.

**James Eckman '01** recently bought a house in Roseville, MN and works as a financial analyst for Fairview Health.

**Erin Stauber '01** married Peter Stephan in Duluth; they currently live in Louisville, KY.

**Andrea Gordon '00** is president and founder of a new outdoor touring company in Duluth called Self Discovery Adventures. The company says "no gear, no problem" and offers guided kayaking, canoeing, biking and hiking trips.

**Jonathan Langager '99** won numerous awards for his thesis film "Josephine and the Roach," including the College Television Awards for Best Short Comedy and Best Director, the University of Southern California Faculty Award for Best Director, and a Student Academy Award in the Narrative Category.

**Seth Peabody '99** is a recent recipient of the Fulbright Scholarship. According to Heidi Spoelhof '99, he received a research grant and studied in Munich.

**Erdem Durgunoglu '98** has been awarded a Fullbright Full Research Grant for the 2013-14 academic year to study Slow Food and butchery practices in Turkey.

**Jamie MacDougall '94** was the commencement speaker at Marshall's graduation in June 2013. Jamie is the Head of Middle School at Sycamore School in Indianapolis, IN.

**Katie McGee '91** was inducted to the Hilltopper Athletic Hall of Fame in May 2013.

**Mari Casserberg '90** was inducted to the Hilltopper Athletic Hall of Fame in May 2013.

**Maria Bamford '88** is a guest on *Arrested Development*, which airs on Netflix.

**Erika Hanson Cashin '87** serves as a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Air Force. Erika received accolades for starting a Lean In Circle to mentor women in the Air Force.

**Ted Kubista '86** recently retired from the US Army.

**Mitch Corbin '74** was inducted to the Hilltopper Athletic Hall of Fame in May 2013.

**Bob Schroeder '70, Steve Netzel '70 and Russ VanDell '70** came together in their band, Sound Inc., to play two summer concerts at Chester Bowl and Clyde Iron Works in Duluth.

**Greg Cane '69** was inducted to the College of St. Scholastica's Athletic Hall of Fame in September 2013.

**Tom Paul '68** was inducted to the Hilltopper Athletic Hall of Fame in May 2013.

## In Memoriam

Evelyn McKeever Gooder '29  
Joseph Medlin '36  
Eleanor Tarnowski Pons '36  
Marion Lorraine Johnson St. Marie Precord '39  
Frank Gerard '43  
Ronald Landry '45  
Virginia Neuman Brophy '46  
Chester 'Chet' Luczak '46  
Maxine Taylor '48  
A. Richard 'Dick' Lachowski '48  
Donald Andrews '51  
Vincent Dodge '51  
Joseph Dubla '51  
Marie Katherine 'Kay' St. Marie '51  
Betty Ray LeBeau Welsh '51  
William 'Bill' Ramsay '56  
Suzanne Nancy Brown Anderson '57  
John "Greg" O'Brien, Jr. '60  
Gregory Gerst '64  
Scott Conrad '73  
Mary Patricia Hughes '73  
Elizabeth Merritt Smith Seeler '76



*Your support*

# Matters

## Join the Annual Hilltopper Fund

The Annual Hilltopper Fund is the cornerstone of philanthropy at Marshall. Unrestricted gifts to the Hilltopper Fund allow Marshall to provide extraordinary opportunities for learning and discovery; sustain and enhance our distinctive academic programs; extend the financial aid program (formerly Big Circle fund) to exceptional students in need; help meet emerging needs and challenges; and boldly take advantage of opportunities as they arise. Every gift, big or small, makes a real difference.

### Give to the Max Challenge.

November 14th  
givemn.razoo.com

### Give by mail.

The simplest and easiest way to make your gift is by cash, credit card or personal check. Mail to: Marshall School, 1215 Rice Lake Road, Duluth, MN 55811.

### Give online.

Make a gift anytime day or night. Visit [marshallschool.org/giving](http://marshallschool.org/giving).

### Give a recurring gift.

Setting up an electronic automatic payment through your bank account is a convenient and flexible way to make a recurring gift to Marshall.

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