



# The Chancellor

St. Thomas More School | Oakdale, CT | www.stmct.org

FALL | WINTER 2015

## Headmaster's View



*James F. Hanrahan, Jr., '72*

**F**all is always an exciting time of the year at STM. It is always nice to see the smiling faces of returning students and, also, to get to know the newcomers. Please join us for Parent's Day / Homecoming / Founder's Dinner on Saturday, October 24, 2015. This is your opportunity to meet your son's teachers.

They will be in their classrooms from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Please feel free to stay for lunch and our athletic games, including a home cross country match, varsity soccer game and the Homecoming Football Game vs. Tabor Academy at 3:30 p.m. In the evening, the Founder's Dinner will be held at the Mohegan Sun Casino in Uncasville, CT. This year's dinner is in honor of Francis D. Robinson, President, St. Thomas More Endowment and Development Fund, Inc. Prior registration is required for this event and the cost is \$125 per person which includes a cocktail reception and full-course dinner. 🍷

### NEW ADMISSIONS STAFF

#### **Tom O'Connor Admissions Officer**

Mr. Thomas O'Connor grew up in Reading, MA. In 1968, he moved with his parents to Sandwich. He attended Sandwich High School for one year before enrolling at Avon Old Farms. At Avon, Tom played varsity hockey for 3 years and varsity baseball and graduated in 1990. He went on to Northeastern University where he played varsity hockey for four years and was captain of the NCAA qualifying team in his senior year. After NU, Tom played pro hockey for



*Tom O'Connor and Stephanie Salazar*

a short time in Sweden. He graduated from NU in 1995 and remained there working in the business office as the Assistant to the Vice President of Business. After five years, Tom moved back to the Cape and has had a career in real estate for the past 14 years.

Some hobbies Tom enjoys are playing hockey, golfing, fishing and working out. He loves Labradors and plans on getting another one soon.

Tom chose St. Thomas More because of the warm and friendly people he met during the interview process. Also, having graduated from an all-boys prep high school, he feels the all-boys environment allows the students to mature and succeed academically and athletically without the distractions of the traditional co-ed school. Tom is looking forward to the challenges of building an ice hockey program here.

#### **Stephanie Salazar Admissions Officer**

Ms. Stephanie Salazar grew up in Westchester County, NY. She obtained her B.A. from Iona College

*Continued on next page...*



## The Mission of St. Thomas More School

St. Thomas More School is an accredited college preparatory boarding school in the Catholic tradition for young men who have demonstrated intellectual ability yet have not realized their potential. Within a caring environment we strive to motivate, nurture and strengthen the intellectual, moral, physical and social development of every student.

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### Development Office Staff

James F. Hanrahan, Jr., ‘72, Headmaster  
Sheryl Schnaidt, Administrative Assistant

#### Contact Information

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The Chancellor is a publication of the St. Thomas More School Development Office

in 2010, with a major in Psychology and minor in Spanish. Continuing her education at The College of New Rochelle, she earned her M.A. in Guidance and Counseling in 2013.

As a former admissions counselor at a small liberal arts college, Stephanie has experience in the field of admissions and a passion for working with families and students. STM’s overall mission to help students realize their full potential is the reason that she wanted to join the STM community. 🍀

### Graduation, ‘14-‘15

OAKDALE, CT. – St. Thomas More School in Oakdale, CT held graduation on Saturday, May 16, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. The students were led into Our Lady’s Chapel by the Marshal Daniel Borges Rosa, ‘16 a native of Brazil who earned the Junior Achievement award. The Campus Chaplain, Father Richard Crawley, OFM, CAP, gave the Invocation and Jamie Hanrahan, Jr., ‘72 welcomed guests before announcing Deacon Art Miller who gave a rousing commencement address.

Deacon Miller is an author, a radio and television host, revivalist, Viet Nam era veteran, veteran civil rights worker, and the retired owner of A. Miller investments. Deacon Miller graduated from the University of Illinois in 1966 and received his MBA from DePaul University in 1972.

Currently, he is the Director of the Office for Black Catholic Ministries for the Archdiocese of Hartford. In addition to his assigned parish of St. Mary’s in Simsbury, he is also the Catholic Chaplin at Hartford’s Capital Community College, as well as adjunct facul-



Daniel Borges Rosa, ‘16

# Graduation 2014-15



ty for Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford, CT and for Our Lady of Calvary Retreat Center in Farmington, CT.

At public forums, houses of worship, schools and universities across the country, Deacon Miller addresses issues of social injustice. His recently released book, *The Journey to Chatham*, details the historic events surrounding the death of Emmett Till and the birth of the Civil Rights movement. Deacon Miller is a certified trainer in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s nonviolence philosophy. Echoing the thoughts of Dr. King, he believes that as part of the great human experience, no one can sit idly tolerant of the great injustices that happen anywhere in the world.

Deacon Miller proposes, "If God were to give us an 11th commandment, I believe it would read: Thou shall not be a bystander."

Eduardo Minetto Vilarindo, '15, of Brazil gave the Salutatory Address and Zhi Yuan Li, '15 from China presented the Valedictory Address. The Ryan Mullaly award was presented to Zachary Clayton Allen, '15 from Salem, CT; The Board of Directors' Award went to Bo Major, '16 from Sag Harbor, NY. The highest award, The Headmaster's Award, was given to Luis Henrique Ribeiro Constantino, '15 from Brazil. 🇧🇷

## COLLEGE PLACEMENT

### Seniors:

Agar, Arkel.....	<b>St. Thomas More PG</b>
Allen, Zackary.....	<b>Howard University</b>
Amin, Khalid.....	<b>Johnson and Wales University</b>
Brown, Joshuah.....	<b>Univ of Toronto/Ottawa</b>
Chavez, Mauricio.....	<b>Northeast Lakeview College</b>
Chein Mateos, Jose.....	<b>Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México</b>
Chen, Yiwei "Evan".....	<b>Muhlenberg College</b>
Cheng, Hao.....	<b>University of Washington</b>
Chuang, Min.....	<b>Suffolk University</b>
Constantino, Luis.....	<b>Peru State Univerity</b>
Crawford, Eric.....	<b>St. Thomas More PG</b>
Deng, Ajou.....	<b>Undecided</b>
Devia Cameron, Gonzalo.....	<b>UNDECIDED (Chile)</b>
Enoch, Steven.....	<b>UCONN</b>
Fernandes, Nate.....	<b>Becker College</b>
Ferraro, Jacob.....	<b>Rochester Inst. Of Technology</b>
Gao, Yubo.....	<b>University of the Pacific</b>
Hamilton, Lee Adam.....	<b>Hampden-Sydney College</b>
Hao, Changchun.....	<b>Penn State</b>



*Deacon Miller and Fr. Crawley*

Hepburn, Samuel.....	<b>Mitchell College</b>
Kim, Hyo Min.....	<b>Marymount Manhattan College</b>
Lee, Dong Hoon.....	<b>UNDECIDED (Korea)</b>
Lee, Young Ho.....	<b>George Mason University</b>
Li, Jin.....	<b>UCONN</b>
Li, Zhiyuan "Alexander".....	<b>University of Washington</b>
Maldonado, Javier.....	<b>Universidad Anahuac (Mexico)</b>
Nakai, Yuga.....	<b>Drew University</b>
Nino, Kalani.....	<b>Lasell College</b>
Pang, Boming.....	<b>University of Washington</b>
Sebastian, Kolton.....	<b>Johnson &amp; Wales</b>
Shi, Zheng.....	<b>Penn State</b>
Small, Cedre'.....	<b>Rowan University</b>
Slater, Fred.....	<b>UNDECIDED</b>
Tajima, Ippei.....	<b>Waseda University</b>
Trumbo, D'Vonne.....	<b>University of Bridgeport</b>
Vilarindo, Eduardo Minetto.....	<b>Tennessee Tech</b>
Wang, Hao.....	<b>Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology</b>
Wang, Jie.....	<b>Penn State</b>
Wheatley, John.....	<b>Emmanuel College</b>
Xiao, Huiyu "Terry".....	<b>University of Dayton</b>
Zhang, Hengbin "Lawrence".....	<b>Boston University</b>

### Post-graduates:

Byrd, C.J.....	<b>Gannon University</b>
Funk, Ryan.....	<b>Marist College</b>
Gardener, Ian.....	<b>Gannon University</b>
Haskins, Anthony.....	<b>Western CT State Univ.</b>
Moorer, Jarred.....	<b>Southern CT State Univ.</b>
Millhaven, Steven.....	<b>Concordia College</b>
Hoehn, Sean.....	<b>Sacred Heart Univ.</b>
Peterson, Ryan.....	<b>Pace Univ.</b>
Taplan, Sterling.....	<b>Tulsa Univ.</b>

## Mrs. Patricia Hanrahan Passes



*Pat and Jim Hanrahan*

St. Thomas More School lost its co-founder and first lady on March 30, 2015.

Patricia Sweeney Hanrahan, “Patsy”, 86 years old died peacefully at home on Monday, March 30, 2015. Pat was born April 22, 1928 in Brooklyn, NY, the youngest of three children of the late Paul and Helen (Fitzgerald) Sweeney. As a young girl, Patsy loved to roller-skate for long afternoons in the neighborhoods of Brooklyn, an independent spirit and a confident, outgoing young woman. In her young adult years, her family moved to Rockville, and that same energy and adventure often took her to Crystal Lake where she would swim and sail with friends and family for hours each day. She received a BA in Home Economics from University of Connecticut. She began her career at Long Lane Center for young women.

In 1951, Pat married James Fox Hanrahan of Waterbury. For 11 years, Jim worked hard teaching and coaching while Pat raised their growing family on the campus of Fairfield University (CT). In the summers, Pat and Jim owned and directed Gardner Lake Camp in Oakdale. In 1962, Pat and Jim moved per-

manently to Gardner Lake and built St. Thomas More School, fulfilling a lifelong dream of Jim’s to establish a school to offer young men a chance to reach their potential within a structured educational environment. Pat’s skills as a listener and visionary were an instrumental part of the success of the school. Students and young faculty alike benefited from her counsel and support, especially in the early years of the school’s growth. Pat’s two life passions were raising her children and creating art. She was a generous and caring mother to 13 children. She was fortunate to have lived a long life surrounded by many of her children and grandchildren as nearby neighbors. Nothing brought her as much pleasure as listening to each of them share their stories and seek her advice. She was an artist throughout her life and a keen observer of the natural world. After her children were grown, she spent many hours painting folk art, both at home and with a group of friends.

Pat will be fondly remembered by all those fortunate enough to have known her. 🍷



*A young Pat with her family*

# NEW FACULTY



## **TOMMY HARKINS** **ENGLISH TEACHER**

Mr. Tommy Harkins was the third generation of his family to grow up in his house which is located in New Canaan, CT. New Canaan is part of Fairfield County.

He graduated from Gettysburg College in 2011. Tommy received a Bachelor of Arts as an English Major and Secondary Education Minor.

Always a huge baseball fan, Tommy grew up playing it in high school and for a year at college. Other hobbies he enjoys are reading and the New England Patriots.

Tommy will be an English Teacher and Dorm Parent in John F. Kennedy dormitory. He will teach Global Literature and Language Arts.

Before joining STM, Tommy taught at a military academy in North Carolina. St. Thomas More offered him an amazing opportunity with a school focused on helping young men grow academically as well as personally. Several teachers had an influence on Tommy's life in high school. Seeing that, made him realize that he wanted to try to help young adults in his own career. St Thomas More has a curriculum and a mission statement that are exactly what Tommy is looking for.

## **WILL HUNTINGTON** **MATH TEACHER**

Mr. William Huntington grew up only a few miles down the road from STM in Montville. He graduated from Montville High School in 2003. Will then went to the University of Vermont and earned a BS in Business Administration. He received his MS in Ecological Education and Leadership in 2010.

Will enjoys being outdoors as much as possible – including hiking, kayaking, rock climbing and mountain biking. He also loves to travel and learn about the history of different cultures and has visited many foreign countries.

He has taught in a variety of settings since his early 20's. Will has held positions that have allowed him to travel around the country and internationally while teaching a variety of subjects. When he heard about

the opportunity to teach at St. Thomas More, he was excited about returning to where he grew up and teaching in a community environment that emphasizes helping young men reach their potential.

Will has a sister who is also in the field of education and is a principal in the Montville school system. He is joined on campus by his 11- year- old boxer, Rocky.

He will be teaching pre-algebra and algebra II. 🐾

## **'15-'16 Football Schedule**

*Please feel free to come to a game!*

*Coached by Lou Allen, III*

9/19	2:00	H	Hyde School
9/26	2:30	H	Capitol Prep Magnet
10/3	3:00	A	Kingswood Oxford
10/10	3:00	A	Canterbury School
10/17	3:30	A	New Hampton
10/24	3:30	H	Tabor Academy
10/31	2:30	H	Cheshire Academy
11/7	6:30	A	Wilbraham Monson
11/14	2:00	H	Hopkins



# Tribute to Brian Jones, '95

Written by Gregg Doyer  
(Originally printed in the Indiana Star)

*In the end, Brian Jones was dancing. He couldn't talk, couldn't even move by late Wednesday night, but he could dance. If you knew Brian Jones at all, you would understand.*

*Tom Crean knew Brian Jones.*

*And so when Jones' sister reached out to the Indiana basketball coach on Thursday to tell Crean that Jones had died of ALS, and that his final request had been to dance with family members to "Shake it off" by Taylor Swift, Crean understood.*

*"This guy had a process of life, he had a spirit — he was special," Crean said Friday. "This disease, it's a destroyer. At the same time, he didn't let it destroy his spirit. He was one of those guys where you would walk out of the room, and you're hoping to make him feel better, and he made you feel better.*

*"The last time we talked, he couldn't really talk. They put me on speaker and I was telling him what we were doing, how we were recruiting, all that. But if his sister says he was dancing, then he was dancing. What an attitude he had."*

*The ALS was moving fast through Brian Jones. It attacks each patient differently, letting some live a decade or more but killing most within five years of diagnosis. But for Brian Jones, ALS was in a hurry. He was diagnosed in April 2014, and by winter he was in hospice care. Father Tom Kovatch of St. Charles Catholic Church in Bloomington told Joani Crean about Brian Jones, and Joani told her husband, and Tom Crean went to see him at the hospice. Then he invited him to Assembly Hall for an IU game.*

*Brian Jones showed up for the Minnesota game on Feb. 15, and he was in the media room after the Hoosiers' 90-71 victory, and then he was up on the podium with Crean, sitting next to the IU coach during his postgame press conference.*

*That got the attention of an IU fan from Bloomington named Steve Sheldon, whose father died of ALS 14 years ago. Sheldon reached out to the Jones family, visited Brian, started bringing his mini-dachshund, Hershey — Brian had grown up with a mini-dachshund — and said it back to him every time Brian would squeak out his battle cry: "ALS sucks."*

*"I knew him a total of 41 days," Sheldon says, "but he had an impact on me."*

*And on Crean. The IU coach was in the gym Thursday when he got the text message from Jones' sister, Adele, that Brian had died. Crean knew it was coming — the ALS was moving so fast, too fast — but still he says "it took the wind out of me."*

*Crean went to his office to regroup, thumbed through the day's mail, and saw a letter from Jones' sister. Just a card and personal note about Brian, written several days before he died.*

*"That was hard. All of it's so hard," Crean said. "But he was ready to meet God. That's the most important thing."*

*Says Steve Sheldon: "He's now in heaven — walking, running and talking, all the things he couldn't do on Earth at the end." 🍷*

# ALUMNI NOTES



**Ahmed Amin, '08** has just finished a six month internship in banquet and events at the Four Seasons Hotel in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He will receive his diploma from Les Roches University.

**Jeremy Becker, '97** and his wife Eve Becker welcomed their daughter, Mary Grace Becker, on February 2, 2015.

**Brendan Collins, '11** has graduated from Alfred University with a degree in English and Sociology.

**Dennis Faulk, '69** is still living at 64, still working and owes it to T-MORE. He thanks the school and his parents for the wisdom to send him there. Also, thanks to Nick M...who can spell his last name and Ernie "No-D".

**Mike Ferrelli, '01** has been named Plant Manager at the Rochester Shoe Tree in New Hampshire.

**Michael Flynn, '87**, of Elite Parking & Hospitality provided valet parking & greeting services for The Barclays PGA Tour for the week of August 25 – 30 in Edison, NJ.

**Joseph Honerkamp, '70**, recently retired from 41 great years at NBC. His original dream was to work at 50.000 watt clear channel WNBC radio. Other career stops at 30 Rock included engineering positions at WNBC/WNIS/WYNY and NBC radio Network News. One of Joe's first radio net positions was lead audio control engineer for NBC Monitor. Monitor was a national radio variety show. His decision to follow this career path was made in his early STM days. STM teacher Mr. Ambrose started a radio club with a small low powered "studio" in an empty dorm room in the VERY old Xavier dorm. They generated a signal from a long wire antenna that ran from the dorm room window to a nearby tree. Other 30 Rock NYC stops included various engineering positions at WNBC NY TV NBC Television Network with one of Joe's last stops at NBC News. He worked every Net show originating in NYC including Today/Dateline NBC News at Sunrise/NBC Nightly News/Saturday Night Live and Jimmy Fallon. Special breaking National News coverage rounded out his NBC career. It all started in old beat up Xavier Dorm at STM! Joseph sends greetings to all his class-

mates from the STM class of 1970 and a special greeting to Mr. Hanrahan!

**PS from Joseph Honerkamp, '70:** *"The STM educational model served me VERY well. Broadcasting DEMANDS a steady organized approach to your position. I would have lasted three minutes in a network television environment without the great order and accountability that a STM student must adhere to every day on campus!"*

**Darren Jiang, '03:** *"We brought Pinnacle Basketball to America! It took 1.5 years of planning and preparation but we finally did it! Although we had a fairly small group this first year, we were able to achieve everything we set out to do AND MORE! We believe that the variety of cultural experiences will give a lasting memory to the kids. They grew, matured and learned a whole lot from this trip. And some of the experiences will certainly have a life-time impact on them."*



*Pinnacle Basketball, 2015*

**Chris McManus, '98** is a police officer in Yonkers, NY, married and expecting his first child, a son, in January.

**Geoff Medcalf, '98**, received his bookkeeping certificate in accounting in May. He is also taking six 200-level accounting classes in a year, the first three now, to jump closer to the Associates Degree!

**David Sikorski, '06** is traveling as a music journalist and festival critic for *Billboard Magazine*, *NME Magazine* and *SPIN*. 🇺🇸

# The Chancellor

St. Thomas More School  
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Oakdale, CT 06370

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## **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **15TH ANNUAL FOUNDER'S DINNER**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2015**

**MOHEGAN SUN CASINO, UNCASVILLE, CT**

### **HONORING MR. FRANCIS D. ROBINSON**

**PRESIDENT, ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL**

**ENDOWMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FUND, INC.**

**6:00 PM – Cocktail Hour • 7:00 PM – Dinner • 7:45 PM – Program**

**Cost is \$125.00 per person and registration is required.**

**Please contact [sschnaidt@stmct.org](mailto:sschnaidt@stmct.org) or (860) 859-1900 x107 for more details.**