



SAINT MICHAEL'S
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OFFICE OF ALUMNI & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

July 2024 eNews

Things Are Heating up!



Salad Days at the SMC Farm

Salad Days is an on-campus event hosted by the SMC Farm to promote community within the faculty, staff and students through the summer months.

Dear Alumni, Family and Friends,

Greetings from Saint Michael's! It's summertime in Vermont and yes, it's every bit as beautiful as you imagine it to be. As the calendar flips to July, I begin a new chapter in my 38th year on staff here at the College. Purple Knight athletics has long been my home, but I'm excited for the new position I now hold with our department of Institutional

Advancement. I have moved out of the Tarrant Recreation Center (like moving out of my childhood home – so many fond memories and too much stuff!) and over to the Pomerleau Alumni Center. I know I'll miss the daily interaction with the Purple Knights athletics family, but I look forward to working with the talented and enthusiastic team here in Prevel and Pomerleau.



It is said that athletics is the “front porch” of a college or university because of its visibility and opportunities to engage the external community. The expansive view from my office reflected that – it looked south from Tarrant’s main entrance, across the parking lot to the campus road and Route 15, with the airport on the horizon beyond the trees. It was outward facing, as if I was sitting on SMC’s front porch, with no other active campus building in sight. The view from my new office in Pomerleau is quite different and wonderfully symbolic as my role here changes. I now look back toward campus, enjoying the SMC “skyline” of Jeanmarie Hall, Cheray Science Center, Saint Edmund’s Hall, Klein Hall and McCarthy Arts Center, bookended by Founders Annex to the east and the Ross Sports Center to the west. Each building is a significant symbol of our College, honoring the benevolence and sacrifice of those who came before us. The view provides me a daily reminder of the proud history of our truly remarkable College and the importance of the contributions we all make – and have made for 120 years – to sustain and enhance

this special place and provide the life-changing Saint Michael's educational experience for our students. I'm all in.

Wishing you and yours a wonderful summer, and if your travels take you "home" to Vermont, please be sure to come by campus and say hello!

Best wishes,

Chris Kenny '86 M'98 P'18

Executive Director of Stewardship & Leadership Giving



A Successful Year End!

Thank you for another year of amazing support during our [June Challenge](#). Your continued support goes on to create incredible opportunities and experiences for current and future generations of Purple Knights! With your generosity we raised \$424,818 from 644 Purple Knights, unlocking \$155,000 in challenge gifts. Nothing can eclipse the support you have for our

students!

Meghan Sweezey '10 Named Saint Michael's Women's Ice Hockey Head Coach

Saint Michael's College women's ice hockey alumna

[Meghan Sweezey '10](#) was introduced as the program's new head coach, effective July 1. Sweezey previously served

as the squad's top assistant coach and owns [Girls 4 Hockey](#), which she founded in 2016 to continue growing the game. She succeeds **Chris Donovan**, who coached the Purple Knights during their first 24 years of varsity play, including as the program joined the NCAA Division I New England Women's Hockey Alliance (NEWHA) in 2017-18.



"I'd like to thank the Saint Michael's College administration and Athletic Department for affording me this incredible opportunity," said Sweezey.

[Read more about Sweezey](#)

[Watch a recent news interview with Sweezey](#)



Julie Griffin-Carty '09 on Building Community

Saint Michael's College is known for its close-knit community, which not only draws prospective students to campus, but allows current students and graduates to understand the value of connecting with their environment and the people around them. Julie Griffin-Carty '09 has found herself at home within new communities, though she faced some challenges to get there.

Griffin-Carty arrived in Paris in July 2022 with little knowledge of the language, no job, no apartment, and a slew of Airbnb reservations lined up but after a while, things started to fall into place. She cites St. Mike's as the source of her leadership and community engagement skills as she jumpstarted her career abroad and eventually secured a job at the International Chamber of Commerce.

[Read more on Julie and other alumni in our magazine](#)

Alumni & Family Weekend 2024

Save the date for Alumni and Family Weekend, **September 20-22, 2024**. This weekend is about coming together to celebrate what it means to be a part of the St. Mike's family – past, present, and future!



The weekend will kick off with the grand opening of the Kelley Ski Center on Friday night, a welcome back bash hosted by the Student Government Association on Saturday, and many other events around campus showcasing all that is uniquely St. Mike's. A full schedule and event details are forthcoming and can be found [here](#).



Schedule of Events:

In addition to the events highlighted below, we have plans in the works in a city near you! Keep an eye on our [events calendar](#) as details are confirmed. Interested in planning an event in your area? Email events@smcvt.edu.

August 11th: Time for the Red Sox! Join us for the Sox Vs. Astros game. [RSVP](#) for tickets today!

August 23th - September 1st: The Champlain Valley Fair is back in town! [Tickets are available to purchase ahead of time](#). This is your chance to celebrate "The Ten Best Days of Summer!" The fair will be from 10 AM - 10 PM each day.

August 17th: Join fellow Purple Knights at a Hartford Athletics Game as they take on the Las Vegas Lights FC! The game starts at 7:00 PM at Trinity Health Stadium. [RSVP](#) for tickets.

August 27th: Join us for a Phillies Vs. Astros game on Tuesday, August 27! [RSVP](#) for tickets.

September 20th-22th: Save the date for Alumni & Family Weekend 2024! More information to come.

September 25th: Save the date to meet President Plumb at a reception in Boston at the New England Aquarium. More information to come.

October 26th: Save the date for the Inauguration of Saint Michael's College's 18th President. More details to come.

November 16th: Help us celebrate the 25th anniversary of the 1998-99 men's ice hockey team's NCAA Division II national championship! All men's ice hockey alumni are invited back for a morning alumni game before the 1998-99 team is honored during an on-ice ceremony that afternoon when the Purple Knights take

on Southern New Hampshire at Cairns Arena in South Burlington. Later that evening, join us in the Dion Family Student Center at Saint Michael's College as the 1998-99 Purple Knights are inducted into the SMC Athletic Hall of Fame. Keep an eye on SMCAthletics.com as more information becomes available.

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