

# THE GRAPEVINE

The Newsletter for Friends and Alumni of Prince of Peace Catholic School, Prince of Peace College Preparatory, Mater Dei High School, St. Mary's High School, Mt. St. Clare Academy, and Our Lady of Angels Academy



## Welcome!

Prince of Peace Catholic School is pleased to present this publication of *The Grapevine*.

This semiannual newsletter is sent to alumni and friends of Catholic education to update them on events happening at their school.

If you are a parent receiving this newsletter for a child who has moved, please pass along his or her address. This information can be mailed to the school or emailed to [nate.vanderbleek@prince.pvt.k12.ia.us](mailto:nate.vanderbleek@prince.pvt.k12.ia.us)

We'd also love to hear your updates so we can publish them in our next issue!

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## Principal Brown Takes the Helm at Prince of Peace Catholic School



In his 1895 play, *An Ideal Husband*, Irish playwright Oscar Wilde gave us a simple, yet candid piece of advice: to “expect the unexpected”.

At the end of the 2021-2022 school year, Prince of Peace principal Andrew Bradley announced that he had made the difficult decision to move out of the state to be closer to family. Prince of Peace Catholic School wished the Bradley family well in their next adventure, but they were not the only ones who had an unexpected event coming down the line.

After fifty-one years away from his hometown, former school administrator and state senator Joseph E. Brown, Sr. moved back to Clinton, just two blocks away from his boyhood home on McKinley Street and four blocks away from the site of his elementary school, St. Irenaeus.

Brown graduated from Clinton High School in 1969, and after earning an associate's degree from

Mount St. Clare College, he went on to William Penn College before securing his first teaching position at Montezuma High School. After three years, he moved into politics, serving two terms in the Iowa State Senate. After not seeking reelection, Brown moved into the private sector for nine years at Unisys Corp. in Chicago before returning to education.

After working as a principal in Barnum, Minnesota, and LeSueur-Henderson Schools in Minnesota, he returned to Chicago to serve as principal and superintendent at the Chicago International Charter School. He later went back to Minnesota, becoming a principal in Austin, Minnesota for five years before moving to the superintendent role in Grand Meadow and, later, Fairmont, Minnesota. Finally, he served as the interim superintendent for the Clear Creek-Amana School District in Oxford, Iowa.

Upon retiring from Clear Creek-

*Brown, continued on page 4*

## Irish Senior Medals in Final State XC Race

Prince of Peace senior Marcus Blount has completed his clean sweep at the State Cross Country meet, and left with a new medal to show it.

In his fourth consecutive state appearance, Blount had his strongest finish at 15th place, his best finish yet. “It definitely feels pretty awesome because it’s something I’ve been striving towards for the past year,” Blount told the Clinton Herald. “Finally making that podium in my last high school race feels great.”

Blount, who is the son of Nathan (MDHS '93) and Lisa Blount, has had *Blount, continued on page 2*

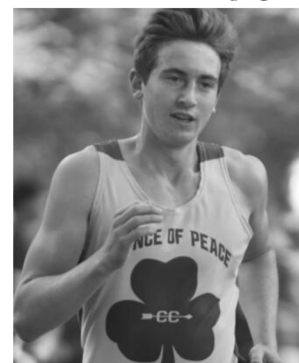


Photo courtesy of Clinton Herald

# Prince of Peace Alumna Honored With Nursing Award




Photo Courtesy of KWQC


**A**bby (Dodd) Petersen, a Prince of Peace College Preparatory 2012 graduate, was recently honored with the DAISY Award for her work at MercyOne Clinton Medical Center.

The DAISY (Diseases Attacking the Immune System) Award is an international recognition program that honors and celebrates the skillful, compassionate care nurses provide every day. Recipients receive the award for going above and beyond their standard requirements to serve their patients

and their families.

Petersen’s nomination said, “Abby demonstrated extraordinary compassion and makes significant positive impact on a patients experience in the ER. Abby is quick to organize chaos. She is very attentive to her colleagues needs and has the ability to foresee the unexpected and deal with each situation at an expert level. Her clinical judgement and skills are exceptional, she does not shy away from challenges.” 

## Prince of Peace School Foundation

**T**he Prince of Peace School Foundation exists to provide resources for stability and security now and in the future. The Foundation provides an excellent means by which those who believe in Catholic education for our children can dedicate, forever, a portion of their personal assets for the good of our school. Your planned gift today enables Prince of Peace Catholic School to continue offering quality education for the children of our Parish and community. Please support the Prince of Peace School Foundation through a bequest and/or other planned giving vehicle. For information, please contact Nate Vander Bleek, Director of Advancement, at 563-242-1663. 

<b>Revenue &amp; Expenses</b>	
<b>Year Ended June 30, 2022</b>	
<i>Beginning Balance - July 1, 2021</i>	
Money Market	\$ 15,592.11
Investments	\$ 936,779.24
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$952,371.35</u>
<i>Additions</i>	
Interest/Dividends	\$ 20,406.56
STCG/LTCG/Net gain	\$ 66,300.57
Donations/Mem/Bequests	\$ 112,381.41
<b>Total Additions</b>	<u>\$199,088.54</u>
<i>Disbursements</i>	
Prince of Peace School	\$ 52,582.84
PoP Monthly Fees	\$ 11,250.00
Invoices	\$ 948.41
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<u>(\$64,781.25)</u>
<i>Ending Balance - June 30, 2022</i>	
Money Market	\$ 50,574.09
Investments	\$ 932,211.91
Capital Improvements	\$ 103,892.64
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$1,086,678.64</u>
<b>Foundation Fair Market Value</b>	
Money Market	\$ 50,574.09
Investments	\$ 1,021,704.53
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$1,155,599.36</u>



**NEVER MISS  
A MOMENT**

All Irish contests at the Joe O'Donnell Sports Center and select away contests are available to livestream online with the NFHS Network.

**COST**

**\$11.99/month**

(cancel at any time)

**\$79.99/year**



**NFHSNETWORK.COM**

Blount, continued from page 1


a finish in the forties, the twenties, and the teens, but finished for the first time in the top 15 at state.

Prince of Peace Cross Country coach Owen Howard (POPCP '04) told the Clinton Herald, “It’s very exciting. We’ve been striving for this for the past four

years.”

Blount attributed his success this year to learning his racing style and pacing. “I started out and I was in the twenties but I knew if I kept a good pace and kept trying to run my race I could catch people.” He finished only 0.05 seconds in front of the 16th place runner. “Right at the end I

sprinted, gave it my all and was able to get him.”

Blount is the first Irish boy runner to medal at the state tournament in fourteen years. “It’s that perfect ending for him. He finally hit that goal and to see how excited he and his family were made it special,” Coach Howard said. 

## The Top of the World



This October, Joyce (Bentley) Casey (SMHS '76) and her husband Tom went on the trip of a lifetime when they trekked to Mount Everest Base Camp. The hike up took eight days while averaging 8-15 miles each day before reaching the final altitude of 17,500 feet. They say the climb was very difficult but was very worth it! ♣



## Correction

In the Spring 2022 edition of The Grapevine, a list of annual scholarships awarded by the Prince of Peace School Foundation mistakenly excluded the Deb Lind Scholarship. We are very thankful to Deb Lind's family and the donors of all of our scholarships.

## Drama Department Makes Return this Spring



Many things were lost during the COVID-19 pandemic, and Prince of Peace Catholic School was no exception to this rule. One of the things that was lost was the Prince of Peace Players, the drama club who rehearsed and performed plays and musicals throughout the year. Thankfully, the wait is nearly over and students will make a triumphant return to the stage this spring.

The show is *Aladdin, Jr.*, a musical inspired by the Disney film of the same name, featuring many classic songs such as *Friend Like Me*, *A Whole New World*, and *Prince Ali*.

Also making a grand return to the theater is Mr. Tom Jankowski. Mr. Jankowski taught physical education at Mater Dei and Prince of Peace from 1996 to 2019 while also serving as drama director from 1998 to 2019. He has directed over fifty plays and musicals in his career, and is eager to return to Prince of Peace.

"I'm excited to be back," Mr. Jankowski says. "This is truly a passion for me and I'm thankful for the opportunity to provide these opportunities for the students."

*Aladdin, Jr.* will have three performances in 2023, on Thursday, March 30th, Friday, March 31st, and Saturday, April 1st. All shows will begin at 7pm.

Mr. Jankowski wants to ensure a strong alumni presence at these performances. "I would like to see alumni, whether they were involved in theater or not, to come out and support our students. As such, alumni of St. Mary's High School, Our Lady of Angels Academy, Mater Dei High School, Prince of Peace College Preparatory, and Prince of Peace Catholic School may come see the show for just a donation. I hope to see many new as well as familiar faces this spring!"

Disney's *Aladdin Jr.* is presented through special arrangement with and all materials are provided by Music Theatre International. ♣



Be sure to save the date for the twenty-sixth annual Irish Dinner Auction! The evening will be complete with live and silent auctions as well as dinner and a show! We hope to see you there on Saturday, March 18th, 2023!

# In Memoriam

## 1940s

Katheryn (Schneider) Hess, 95, of Clinton (SMHS '45) 2/4/22

Patricia (Sazma) Outzen, 91, of Clinton (MSCA '48) 7/2/22

Eleanore (Birmingham) Kilcoyne, 91, of Clinton (MSCA '48) 7/25/22



## 1950s

James Pelegrin, 86, of Hortonville, WI (SMHS '51) 3/16/22

Carol (Shaw) Lawson, 88, of Clinton (OLA '51) 9/1/22

Charlene (Lawlor) Smith, 85, of Clinton (SMHS '54) 1/16/22

Lois (Langan) Anderson, of Onekama, MI (OLA '51) 2/4/22

Betty Jost, of Clinton (SMHS '54) 6/23/22

James Krava, 85, of Camanche (SMHS '54) 9/4/22

David Reafsnider, 85, of Clinton (SMHS '55) 7/18/22

William Clark, 86, of Clinton (SMHS '55) 8/3/22

Constance (Ware) Shepherd, 83, of Clinton (MSCA '57) 7/17/22

## 1960s

Gerald Enwright, 77, of Orlando, FL (SMHS '62) 11/26/21

Stephen Jeffrey, 78, of Kennesaw, GA (SMHS '62) 6/12/22

James Rockwell, 78, of Clinton (SMHS '62) 8/28/22

Robert Bentley, 77, of Albuquerque, NM (SMHS '63) 7/25/22

Joseph Redmond, 75, of Oldsmar, FL (SMHS '64) 3/13/22

Michael Gerlson, 76, of Chetek, WI (SMHS '64) 9/10/22

Richard Spittler, 75, of Clinton (SMHS '65) 11/4/22

Charles Blount, 73, of Clinton (SMHS '68) 7/6/22

## 1970s

Jill (Rowan) Housenga, 65, of Camanche (SMHS '75) 6/29/22

Joseph Witt, 64, of Clinton (SMHS '76) 9/3/22

Michael Manion, 63, of Cudahy, WI (SMHS '77) 10/4/22

## 1980s

Brian Ketelsen, 51, of Reno, OH (MDHS '88) 10/10/21

## Faculty & Friends

Donald "Gus" Flood, 88, of Clinton, 8/29/2022

Sr. Mary Paul Hummer, 100, of Clinton (MSCA) 9/19/22

**May the road rise up to meet you.**

**May the wind be always at your back.**

**May the sun shine warm upon your face;**

**the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again,**

**may God hold you in the palm of His hand.**

The staff of *The Grapevine* makes our best effort to monitor and record the deaths of alumni and friends of our school community. We sincerely apologize if we missed your loved one in this list. Please feel free to contact us at 563-242-1663 and we will be sure to include them in our next issue.

*Brown, continued from page 1*

Amana, Brown purchased the IOOF Hall on Roosevelt Street in Clinton. After a long career in education and politics, returning home to Clinton seemed like the best option for Brown to finally retire. But, life has a way of forcing us to expect the unexpected.

Brown heard about the recent principal opening at Prince of Peace Catholic School. He interviewed and accepted the offer to become the principal. Brown says, "Having previously served as a high school principal for ten years and a school superintendent for seventeen years, I was officially retired for eight weeks prior to being called to serve Prince of Peace as their principal for the current school year. After leaving Clinton fifty-one years ago, my goal was to always return to my hometown."

As a former state senator, Principal Brown has a passion for history and politics. He uses this passion as Prince of Peace's high school government and economics teacher, taking a break from his administrator role each

day to teach the school's seniors. His experience gives him and his students a unique look into how our community, state, and nation operate.

When he is not working, you can probably find Principal Brown reading. He has a massive library in his home, filled with three semi-truck loads full of books on every US President, as well as other important people and events in history. He is also a drummer, and was a drummer for the band "The Union Jacks" while growing up. Principal Brown is the father of three and recently welcomed his first grandchild in August. He also has a puppy named Bailey.

"Prince of Peace is a wonderful school where students are provided a quality education in a physically and emotionally safe environment. I am especially delighted to meet each of our new students that are enrolling from neighboring school districts. My prediction is that Prince of Peace will continue to grow our enrollment as we provide additional choices for students and parents." ♣



*In August, members of the Prince of Peace College Preparatory Class of 2012 celebrated their tenth class reunion at Rastrelli's Restaurant. Alumni present include: Front row (left to right): Audrey Griffin, Taylor Determan. Back row: Travis Witt, Jacob Lehmkuhl, Brittany Williams, Hannah Peart, Allison Naeve, Carie Kuehn, Konnor Lemke, and Jacob Kaczinski.*

## "Get Another Bike on Mike"



Photo Courtesy of Clinton Herald

**M**ike (MDHS '83) and Tina Goddard were getting tired of seeing and hearing stories about local children's bikes being stolen in and around the Clinton area. The owners of Lemke Funeral Homes decided that they had to do something about it.

This summer, Mike and Tina announced "Get Another Bike On Mike". The program, solely funded by Lemke Funeral Homes, will purchase a new bike to replace a child's bike that has been stolen. The family must provide a copy of the police report, indicating that the bike was stolen. Mike and Tina then purchase the closest replacement model...along with a brand new bicycle lock. ♣

## Remember When? Forty Years Ago...

*State champions*

## Mater Dei wins A Title



**O**n October 30, 1982, the Mater Dei volleyball team successfully defended their title at the Class 1A championship, winning their second title in as many years. Going into the tournament ranked number two in the state, the Irish defeated top-ranked Orange City Unity Christian in the final with a score of 3-1. They ended the season with a 25-3-1 record.

Under the leadership of Coach Jan Thyne (SMHS '70), the state championship roster included seniors: Eileen (Chaney) Carlson, Lisa (Herkelman) Pierce, Jane (Witt) Roth, and Jean (Witt) Matheny; juniors: Kim (Krause) Duhr, Renee LaCourse, Anne (Lingle) Strawser, Michelle Mussmann, Barb (Thomas) Woods, Kim (Walton) Treadwell, Katie Wolfe; sophomore: Mary (Witt) Michaelsen. ♣

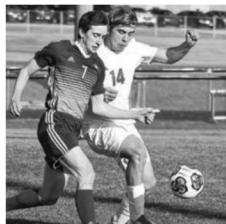
## Irish Athletes Honored at CHAPY Awards

**I**rish athletes received eight nominations at the Clinton Herald Athletic Performers of the Year (CHAPY) Awards. A Prince of Peace coach was also recognized as a nominee. The awards are intended to recognize the best athletes in the Clinton area. Winners and nominees from Prince of Peace Catholic School are:



**Lilly Isenhour** (POPCS '22)

- 🏆 Female Athlete of the Year
- 🏆 Basketball Offensive Player of the Year
- Volleyball Offensive Player of the Year Nominee
- Girls Field Player of the Year Nominee



**Marcus Blount** (Senior)

- 🏆 Boys Cross Country Athlete of the Year
- 🏆 Boys Soccer Player of the Year



**Kaelyn Goodsman** (POPCS '22)

Girls Basketball Defensive Player of the Year Nominee



**Charlie Pelham** (Sophomore)

Boys Bowling Player of the Year Nominee



**Michael Davis** (Boys Soccer Coach)  
Coach of the Year Nominee

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[www.prince.pvt.k12.ia.us](http://www.prince.pvt.k12.ia.us)  
and click on the "Alumni" tab!



*Alumni of Clinton Catholic Schools are invited to attend the performances of Aladdin, Jr on March 30, March 31, and April 1 at 7pm. Alumni are admitted for the cost of a donation to The Prince of Peace Players. The performances are held in the Prince of Peace School Gym at 312 S 4th Street, Clinton.*

## Let's Catch Up!

We want to hear from you! Is there any interesting news or events that have happened recently in your life? Did you get a new job or promotion? Have you recently been married or added a new member to your family? Have you moved? We encourage you to share your news with us and your fellow alums!



Either scan this code or visit the school's website at [www.prince.pvt.k12.ia.us](http://www.prince.pvt.k12.ia.us) and click on the "Alumni" tab!

# CALLING ALL ALUMNI! HOMECOMING 2023



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VS



MARQUETTE CATHOLIC

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*The Grapevine* is a publication of the Clinton Catholic School Alumni Association  
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