This month, Lourdes Academy joins Catholic schools throughout the country in celebrating Catholic Schools Week. The week is filled with activities to celebrate our schools as students “Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.” Join Lourdes Academy in fellowship, faith and fun for exciting events open to the community.

The week kicks off with the 7th Annual Scooter Hockey Tournament on Friday, January 26 at Lourdes Academy High School. Students, parents and alumni will vie for the Scooter Hockey Championship trophy. The All-System Mass will be held at St. Raphael Parish on January 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Show your Knight pride at Red & White Knight on February 2, 6 p.m. JV, 7:30 p.m. Varsity. (See the events page for details.)

Throughout the week, schools and parishes will be collecting hygiene products for the Life Is Beautiful campaign to benefit the Oshkosh Area Community Pantry. Items include soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

Open houses are scheduled at all school sites and are a great opportunity for students to check out what Lourdes Academy has to offer.

- **5th Grade, Middle & High School Step Up Day**
  Lourdes High School • Wed., Jan. 17

- **Future Freshman Knight**
  Lourdes High School • Tues., Jan. 23 - 6 p.m.

- **Peek Into Preschool, 4K & Kindergarten**
  Lourdes Academy Elementary (1207 Oregon St.) Wed., Jan. 31 - 6 p.m.

For additional information or to reserve space at any of these events, contact Mary Beth Kelly at (920) 426-6421 or mbkelly@lourdes.today.
The Judy & Tom Kuble Fund is a permanent endowment started by alumni to support music and the arts at Lourdes Academy. The fund honors beloved choir teacher, Judy Kuble, who passed away in October 2017, and her husband Tom who supported her in her ministry. The fund supports music scholarships and productions, and educational experiences for students. Make a gift to the Judy & Tom Kuble Fund at Lourdes.Today/Give.

It's a Great day to be a Knight!

The Armory is back!

Lourdes Academy will be re-opening the Armory school store during Catholic Schools Week in January! Clothes, rally towels, jean passes, and other goods will be available for purchase! The school store will be run by students of Mrs. Kelly Carter's business classes, and all designs, orders, and advertisements were created by the students. Store hours to come!

“I'm so excited for the students to get hands-on experience with business management,” said Carter. “This is a great opportunity to apply the knowledge they learn in class to the real world. I'm also excited that we will be able to offer the student body custom designs and apparel created by the students!”

Sports Roundup

The Knights and Lady Knights wrapped up the Fall sports season with success on the field and court.

Volleyball: Congratulations to the D4 State Runner Up Volleyball Team who brought home the silver ball at the state tournament in a hard-fought battle.

Cross Country: Jackson Moore ('18) placed 8th in the boys D3 State Cross Country meet in Wisconsin Rapids, and the girls Cross Country team earned a 6th place TEAM finish. Runners for the Knights were Andrea Beecher, Carly Vandenhouten and Olivia Weber ('18); May Dunn, Addie Masini and Ellen Moore ('20); and Mia Maslowski ('21).

Tennis: Emily Holland ('19) won the #1 singles championship for the 2nd straight year in the Wisconsin Combined Tennis Conference (WCTC), and Maria Tushar and Maggie Berenz also won the #1 doubles conference championship.

Football: The Knights advanced to the second round of playoffs marking the first time in school history that the team won a playoff game in back-to-back years.

Your gift to Lourdes helps continue the tradition

The Jug is Back!

Make your voice heard by supporting the Lourdes Fund during the Alumni Brown Jug competition.

Show your school spirit and make your voice heard by competing in the Alumni Brown Jug competition with a gift to the Lourdes Fund. The award is given to the classes with the highest giving and class participation in our fall appeal through March 31. The winning classes will have their name engraved on a Brown Jug plaque at Lourdes High School. Congratulations to last year’s winners, the class of 1974 (highest average gift) and the class of 1985 (best class participation).

Your gift to the Lourdes Fund helps support our amazing teachers, enhance curriculum and extra-curricular activities, upgrade technology and provide a faith foundation for our students.

To give, log on to Lourdes.today/LourdesFund by March 31 to qualify for the Alumni Brown Jug or contact Karen Boehm at (920) 426-3626, ext. 546 or kboehm@lourdes.today. Thank you for supporting Lourdes Academy and for Renewing the Tradition for future generations.

Give the gift of music through the Judy & Tom Kuble Fund

The Judy & Tom Kuble Fund is a permanent endowment started by alumni to support music and the arts at Lourdes Academy. The fund honors beloved choir teacher, Judy Kuble, who passed away in October 2017, and her husband Tom who supported her in her ministry. The fund supports music scholarships and productions, and educational experiences for students. Make a gift to the Judy & Tom Kuble Fund at Lourdes.Today/Give.
Tuning in on Serena Larie  
By Sami Boehm - Knight Writer Student Journalist

Lourdes Academy alumna Serena Larie gives behind-the-scene access to her broadcasting experiences since graduating in 2014.

“It’s fun to reminisce and hear how much of an impact you made,” Larie says as she looks back on her memories from high school. During her time at Lourdes, Larie was strongly involved in the music program. She was a cast member of the Lourdes Academy productions of *Singin’ in the Rain*, *Annie*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*, as well as starring as “Jane” in *Tarzan*. She also enjoyed being a Madrigal singer her sophomore, junior, and senior years.

Throughout most of her senior year at Lourdes, Larie said she hadn’t decided on a career or major. It wasn’t until the end of Madrigal season when the Lourdes Madrigals performed live on WLUK when she said she took an interest in a broadcasting career.

“I fell in love with the studio life and met with news anchor Rachel Maneck. I asked her several questions about her job requirements, and she helped me determine my minor in Radio-TV-Film years later,” Larie said.

After high school, Larie began studying at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh where she is currently a senior majoring in Communication and minoring in Radio-TV-Film. Her education, as well as several other jobs including event staff member at the Paine Art Center and working on campus at the Graduate Studies office and Universities Studies Program, have provided her with many great opportunities in the broadcasting field, she said.

Within the past couple of years, Larie said she has recorded instructional voice overs for the Conover Company, interned with Willems Marketing, and assisted in the coordination of the Mile of Music festival.

Larie said she has also recently taken on an opportunity to travel with the Game Show of America, a game show promotion company, as one of its models.

“I have traveled to Seattle, North Dakota, and Mississippi with the company. People have taken a liking to calling this my Vanna White job.”

Aside from these experiences, Larie said she also found a niche as a news anchor for the Titan TV News last year. Most recently, she said she is working as a WRST radio host and cast member of the Titan TV’s Christmas special, “Cole and Claudia’s Christmas Show.”

Looking back, Larie said she is very appreciative of the teachers and staff at Lourdes. First, she thanked her high school English teachers, “Holly Jankowski and Jennifer Pollack both excelled my writing and analytical skills. Both my major and minor require extensive research and written work.” She also thanked choir teacher Julie Ringlien, “Ms. Ringlien encouraged me to seize every opportunity to share my talent. Her faith in me as a performer translates into each opportunity I’ve been given to perform since high school.”

Larie says she looks forward to graduating from UWO this May and would like to work in production of television or film. She said ultimately her dream job is to be a television host. Larie said she is excited to explore career options and locations and see where life takes her during this transitional period.

“The road that leads you to your career of choice is beautiful, stressful, long yet short, successful, unsuccessful, and every bit what you make it. Enjoy traveling your unique paths; it’s a pivotal moment for everyone!”

Building community with Steve Shew  
By Drew Kennebeck - Knight Writer Student Journalist

1977 alumnus Steve Shew’s desire to become a plumber started at a young age after taking inspiration from both his father and his uncle as a child.

Only five days after Shew graduated from Lourdes, he started working for JFAR and Company, a plumbing company in Fond du Lac. After months of hard work, Shew was indentured on December 12, 1977, meaning he started his first apprenticeship.

“I was extremely blessed; it doesn’t usually happen that fast, but I worked very hard to get there,” Shew said.

Shew said things were going great for him until 1979; at that time, he said America experienced “economic chaos” caused by the American oil crisis and interest rates “going sky high.” Shew said these events lead to a slowdown in business for the plumbing and construction industries.

“Unfortunately, it got so bad for us that apprentices...
had to take turns being laid off. It was a big struggle during that time,” Shew said.

Once the country reached a state of economic prosperity, Shew said he finished his apprenticeship and joined the Union Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 206. In 1983, Shew said he became a journeyman plumber.

“Passing your journeyman test is a huge milestone in becoming a plumber. It really is awesome to see your hard work pay off because not everyone makes it this far,” Shew said.

Shew worked with several contractors throughout the next few years including Basset, August Winters and Green Garrett.

“At first, I was mostly doing running work: transporting things from site to site, but eventually I got to work on some pretty large projects like schools, a YMCA, and even the Kimberly Clark Research Center,” Shew said.

Shew said he worked on these large projects and various others for about 20 years until joining a different union, Local 400, where he became a union organizer.

“I became a union organizer in 1998 which is the job I am still working at today. It is a very rewarding job, getting other union members better benefits and pay. There is nothing more rewarding than having someone come up to you and thank you for their opportunities and for providing them with better benefits. When you think about it, you aren’t just impacting that individual, you are impacting that person’s whole family. That is the best part about my job,” Shew said.

Shew shared that when he was a student at Lourdes, he found it was very important to stay up to date on current events and to be an informed citizen “because one day, it will affect your career.”

“Lourdes was good for me, it kept me on task, and I think a smaller environment is very helpful because it was difficult to get too far astray,” Shew said.

Not only was Shew thankful for his education, he also enjoyed being involved in extracurricular activities. Shew said his favorite high school memory was being a part of the state champion football and track and field teams.

In step with Tricia Olson Bayer
By Lily Pollack - Knight Writer Student Journalist

Lourdes Academy alumna and Richard’s School of the Dance teacher and owner Tricia Olson Bayer (’03) describes her life since graduating from Lourdes in 2003.

While Bayer attended Lourdes, she was planning on becoming a teacher or a sign language interpreter. After graduation, she received her degree as an interpreter and worked in the Fox Cities school system interpreting for two years while also pursuing her Masters in Dance Education through the Chicago National Association of Dance Masters.

Since graduating from Lourdes and earning her degree, Bayer has been busy teaching dance classes while owning and directing at Richard’s School of the Dance in Oshkosh.

Bayer said she first began pursuing her career as a dance teacher when she started assisting with dance classes at Richard’s at the age of 12. After graduation, she began teaching full time at Richard’s when she was 18 and finally purchased and took over the dance studio at the age of 24.

In addition to running the studio in Oshkosh, Bayer has also opened an additional studio that she owns and directs in Kohler, WI, and founded the Richard’s Performance Company where the students perform at community events.

“Richard’s Performance Company is a nonprofit organization that focuses on community enrichment,” Bayer explained.

According to Bayer, some especially meaningful experiences throughout her career as a dancer were being able to choreograph the Mamma Mia! flashmob for the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, as well as becoming an instructor for the Performing Arts Center’s P.A.T.H.S. program which works with engaging at-risk high school students in the performing arts.

Bayer explained that while attending Lourdes Academy, her favorite memories were participating in musicals, Madrigal singers, and running track and field each year. Bayer also added that musicals and Madrigals gave her the opportunity to dance and shape her future.

“Having the opportunity to choreograph for some musicals also helped,” Bayer added.

Additionally, Bayer was able to take American Sign Language classes at Lourdes through Northeast Wisconsin Technical College which helped her in her future career as an interpreter.

Bayer explained.

Most recently, Bayer and her husband Steve welcomed their first child, daughter Aspen Ciara, into the family this past summer. 🌸
Alumni Knight at the Musical

Join fellow alumni for the Lourdes Academy musical, Hello Dolly, on Saturday, March 24 at the Grand Opera House. Enjoy reuniting with alumni at a special dinner reception before the show in the Grand Lounge (located inside the Grand Opera House) with tickets to the show in the Grand’s new Suite Seats.

The evening begins with a social hour at 4 p.m. followed by a dinner buffet at 5 p.m. The Grand Lounge will be open to the public at 6 p.m., but alumni are welcome to remain in the Lounge until the show begins at 7 p.m. Guests are invited back to the Grand Lounge after the show for coffee and cookies.

Tickets for the event are $50 each and include the dinner buffet, show ticket and dessert reception. Only 50 tickets are available, so purchase today. For information or to RSVP, contact Ann (Shew) Pistohl ('80) at 920-233-6907 or shewmaiden@gmail.com. Or register online at Lourdes.today/alumniknight.

Lourdes recognizes alumni, staff at recognition dinner

Save the date for Lourdes Academy’s 8th Annual Awards & Recognition Dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, April 27 at La Sure’s Hall in Oshkosh. During the event, Lourdes Academy will recognize outstanding alumni, staff and volunteers who have served their schools and communities.

Join Lourdes Academy in honoring the following individuals:
• Outstanding Alumni Award – Joseph Kaufmann ('75)
• Distinguished Stewardship Award – Andy Ratchman ('93)
• Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees – Brian Neubauer ('85); Christine “Teenie” Lichtfuss ('12)
• Dr. Stanley Spanbauer Education & Leadership Award – Castle Pierce Printing

Lourdes will also recognize outstanding staff with the Silver Sword Awards, as well as retiring staff.

Tickets for the Awards & Recognition Dinner are $20 each and can be purchased by contacting Shannon Gibson at (920) 426-3626, ext. 541 or sgibson@lourdes.today.

Join us for these upcoming events:

Catholic Schools Week
Jan. 28-Feb. 3, 2018

Life is Beautiful Hygiene Drive
Through Feb. 5 at Lourdes Academy schools and the Oshkosh Catholic parishes

January
17 5th Grade, Middle & High School Step-Up Day
   Noon-3 pm, Lourdes Academy High School

23 Future Freshman Knight
   6 pm, Lourdes Academy High School

26 7th Annual Scooter Hockey Tournament
   5:30 pm, Lourdes High School

30 All System Mass
   9:30 am, St. Raphael Parish

31 Peek Into Preschool, 4K & Kindergarten
   6 pm, Lourdes Academy Elementary School
   (1207 Oregon Street)

February
2 Red & White Knight Basketball Game vs. Horicon
   6 pm JV • 7:15 pm Varsity, Lourdes High School Castle

March
22-23 Lourdes Academy Musical, Hello Dolly
   7 pm, Grand Opera House

24 Lourdes Academy Musical, Hello Dolly
   2 pm & 7 pm, Grand Opera House

24 Alumni Knight at the Musical (Hello Dolly)
   4-7 pm, Grand Opera House Lounge

28 3rd Annual STEM Knight
   5:30-8 pm, Lourdes Academy Middle/High School

April
27 Awards & Recognition Dinner
   5:30-8:30 pm, LaSure’s Banquet Hall

June
15 Lourdes Academy Golf Outing
   Lake Breeze Golf Club

For more information on Catholic Schools Week activities and other events, call Shannon Gibson at (920) 426-3626, ext. 541 or log on to Lourdes.today.
Alumni return to the Castle

Hoops Knights took to the court for the Alumni Basketball Tournament in the Castle on November 25.

Planning a reunion? Contact Shannon Gibson at 920-426-3626, ext. 541 or sgibson@lourdes.today for assistance. Lourdes Academy offers free mailing lists and facilities usage for Lourdes class reunions.

Be a Mentor

Lourdes Academy offers students many opportunities to explore and experience a variety of careers prior to entering the workforce. One such program, Decision Tree Mentoring (DTM), matches alumni with current students or recent graduates to share their experiences in their career field. A match can be as simple as a phone conversation or could evolve into a job shadow or internship experience.

This new program has matched students and mentors in the areas of accounting, physical therapy, criminal justice and dentistry.

To learn more about DTM, contact Karen Boehm at 920-426-3626, ext. 546 or kboehm@lourdes.today.