

Congratulations to AHA alumnus **Todd Smith '91**, whose book *Hockey Strong* from Simon & Schuster was published this fall and is having tremendous success! The book is a collection of essays and photographs celebrating the grit and dedication of NHL players to withstand injury and hardship to play the sport they love. Todd captures the inside stories of superstars old and new, and provides a unique exploration of the long, dangerous, and often arduous journey of an NHL player. Packed with player interviews, photographs, and iconic moments, it's a beautifully designed celebration of one of the toughest sports in the world, and the hearts of the



athletes who play it. Every scar has a story and the book begins with the story of Smith's own hockey scars that were acquired during his time playing hockey at AHA!

In the chapter entitled *Rob McClanahan versus Herb Brooks*, Todd Smith turns to his father, Gary "Smitty" Smith, who was the head athletic trainer of the famous "Miracle on Ice" US hockey team that upset the massively favored Russian team in the 1980 Winter Olympics, and a father and son bond over the sports stories they share and cherish.



Leah Y. Geislinger '94 earned her clinical Doctorate in Occupational Therapy from the University of Loma Linda in 2010. In 2015, she was promoted to the rank of Commander in the United States Navy.

Leah Y. Geislinger '94 pictured with her sister, Hallie (Geislinger) Matuza '92 at Leah's promotion ceremony in San Diego, CA.

2000s

James and Amanda (Gwost) Dotson '00 welcomed a baby girl, Matilda Rose, on May 20, 2016.



Author **Erin Pearson '01** recently released the Amazon bestselling book titled *10 Reasons Your Kids Don't Practice: And What Parents Can Do About It*. Erin resides in Nashville, TN, where she is a creative entrepreneur, teaching music, songwriting, performing, painting, writing books and working on her guitar string jewelry line.

AHA Alumni step up to keep Joe Boerboom rolling!

Joe, age 10, has an incredibly strong connection with Holy Angels. Both his parents **Ryan and Jessica (Meacham) Boerboom** graduated from AHA in 1999. In addition, numerous aunts, uncles and both maternal grandparents (Jeff '79 and Gina Meacham '80) all attended AHA. Recently this group of 1999 alumni (and friends from other AHA classes too), and supporters are working to provide the help and support that Joe needs as he faces increased complications from Muscular Dystrophy.



A group of alumni has gathered to support Joe's family and to help Joe regain his independence. The goal is to raise funds for a ramp to bring his wheelchair in the house, home modifications and funding for a wheelchair accessible vehicle. What better example of the AHA community joining together to make a difference! To learn more about this incredible young man, and join the efforts to envelop the Boerbooms with love and support, visit Youcaring.com and search "Joe Boerboom." #howjoerolls



Emily Carlson '01 is an evening anchor and reporter at KTVA, Anchorage, Alaska.

Emily says, "I love the news because I love telling people's stories. It's my job to find the information that you want, need and require to live better lives and I take that responsibility very seriously. I strive to find the stories, injustices and people that would not otherwise be heard if it weren't for the news platform. I love practicing hot yoga, reading, running, cooking with my husband and hiking. We are determined to climb as many mountains as we can in Alaska."

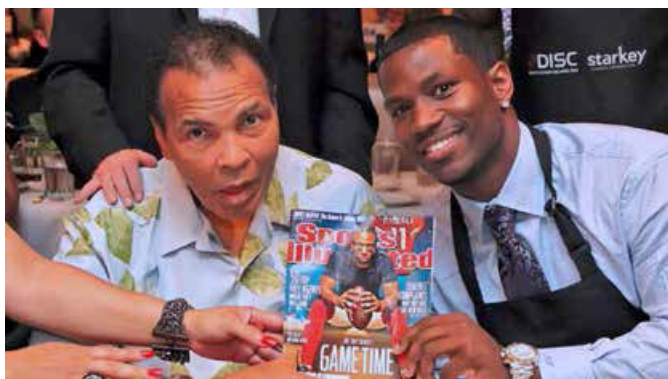


In August, many alumni gathered in Chicago to celebrate the marriage of **Steve Pigozzi '03** and Jocelyn Broitman. Steve is the Workforce Development Supervisor at Association House of Chicago. He also attends IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law. Jocelyn is a master of social work student at the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago.



Front row: Kelsey Waters '03; Middle row: Patrick Strauss '03, Sean Scallen, Steve Pigozzi '03, Fletcher Barnhill '03, Michael Pigozzi '05; Back row: Flynn Moehn '03, David Streier '03, Peter Deitz '03, Alex Wasserberger '03, Dan McCormick '03, Conor Champley '03

Kevin '03 and **Anna Dickinson Cline '03** recently welcomed the birth of their daughter Georgia. Big brother Vinnie (age 2) is beyond excited! Kevin is a project manager for The Metropolitan Council and Anna is a Marketing Manager for Taylor Corporation.



BRUSH WITH FAME!

Marcus Fitzgerald '03 (right) and the late and greatest Muhammed Ali, hanging out together.

After graduating from Boston College with a Masters of Education and completing two years of teaching in the Urban Catholic Teacher Corps, **Emily Rodier Jones '04**, her husband Fred, and one-year old daughter Josephine Marie are excited to have moved back to the Twin Cities this past summer. Fred transferred from PwC in Boston and now works as a manager at the PwC Minneapolis office. Emily is teaching first grade at Prodeo Academy, a high-performing urban, public charter school in Columbia Heights dedicated to closing the achievement gap.



Sarah Mueller Thornton '05, who teaches second grade at Nativity of Our Lord, married Connor Thornton on September 26, 2015 at St. Bonaventure Catholic Church in Bloomington. AHA alums in attendance included Stephen Mueller, Leah Hoglin '05, Michael Adams '05, Jackie Kern '05, and Teresa Brodersen '05. The Thorntons welcomed baby boy Kieran Gregory on July 16, 2016.



Katherine Amundson McClelland '05 and **Samantha Olson '07** connected at the 2016 STEP Ahead Awards recognizing women in manufacturing in Washington DC this April. Katherine is the Director of Education and Workforce Initiatives at The Manufacturing Institute and helped organize the event. Samantha Olson is a Manufacturing Engineer at Danfoss Drives. She was at the awards presentation supporting her supervisor that she nominated for the award.



Terrel Barnes '06 and **Ruth Moehn '06** were married on September 10, 2016, in Edina, MN. Terrel is now an AHA basketball coach.



In August 2016, **John Rodier '07** wed Alisa Romney in Rye, NY (below). Twenty AHA graduates assembled at a wedding such a distance from Minnesota! They included: John Rodier '07, Emily Rodier Jones '04, James Gilchrist '07, Branden Rudie '07, Donald Davis '07, Ellen Kinner '07, Brita Sandstrom, Kelly Schroer '07, Annie Malknecht '07, Ann Welbes Hubbard '80, Matt Welbes '83, John Welbes '86, Ron Rodier '86, Becky Yetzer Rodier '86, Tom Rodier '18, Anna Claire '13 and Leah Hubbard '09. Andrew Tessman '06 came all the way from Germany.



Chelsie Roberge Griesinger '07 and **Jordan Griesinger '07** celebrated their marriage in the AHA chapel in the spring of 2016.

Jazz Hampton '08 attended the University of St. Thomas where he lived with some of his best friends from Holy Angels, played football and rugby, and became class president both junior and senior years. He went on to attend law school at the University of St. Thomas School of Law and served as president of the Black Lawyer Student Association; he is now practicing law at Larson King, LLP. Hampton now resides in Minneapolis with fellow alums Matt Boston '08, Thomas Meacham '08 and Brendan Kelly '08 and shares, "My parents still live just blocks away from Holy Angels and make sure to make it over to see sporting events regularly. I would not be where I am today without the support of the facility, friends, and families that Holy Angels brought into my life. Thanks AHA!"



Jazz Hampton '08 with fellow '08 alums Ricky Margarit and Thomas Meacham.

After finishing up his collegiate baseball career at the University of Minnesota, **Mark Tatera '10** received a biology degree and proceeded to work as a medical scribe for two years at multiple Twin Cities area Allina Health locations, ranging from the emergency room to a cardiology clinic. While working, he also earned additional degrees in chemistry and psychology, and was able to continue to volunteer regularly, before ultimately being accepted into the Yale Physician Associate program within their medical school. Mark says, "I was blessed during this time to have a niece and nephew born into the family (with two more on the way that are due in Fall 2016), continued to play amateur baseball, ran a triathlon and duathlon (the latter with my father and brother), and climbed multiple mountains in Arizona and Colorado, including a 14,000 footer." Currently he is in school at Yale.





2010s

Nicole Formico Leskera '10 graduated from the University of St. Thomas with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and psychology, and she is now a behavioral technician and provides therapy to children with autism. She resides in North Carolina with her husband, Jordan, who is an Infantry Officer in the United States Army.



Nicole & Jordon Leskera's wedding ceremony along the shores of Lake Superior in Tofte, MN. From left to right: Katie Murphy '10, Slaine Kelly '10, Emma Woldum '10, Nicole Formico Leskera '10, Jake Formico '13, Aleeta Vizard '10, Molly Welna '10, and Alicia Babcock '10.

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin–Stout in 2015 with a degree in early childhood education, **Sally Keis '11** now teaches preschool at ABC Express. Sally lives in Minneapolis with three Holy Angels friends: Rachel Adam '11, Kristin Hinke '11 and Annie Baregi '11. She also recently ran her first Twin Cities Marathon with Jenna Gruenwald '11.

Jack O'Rourke '11 is currently serving in Cameroon for the United States Peace Corps. In his remote home of Fonfuka (2 hours+ via a motorcycle from a paved road or electricity), Jack has been focusing on helping curb the spread of HIV. He has been setting up support groups for people living with HIV, training traditional healers on HIV, and doing gender sensitization workshops around the area. Jack loves the people and the culture of the village. After he finishes his service, he plans to pursue a career in international humanitarian aid.



Danielle Mendez and her mom Susan

Danielle Mendez '12 recently graduated from St. Catherine with a major in exercise sports science. She started all four years of soccer at St. Kate's and was named captain as a senior. Danielle earned four school records in soccer, the most of any goalkeeper in the history of the St. Kate's program. Additionally, she was named Wildcat Athlete of the Week and DIII Gem of the Week. Upon graduating from St. Kate's, Danielle made the Women's Premier Soccer League, playing for the Minnesota Twinstars semi-pro team through the summer, and is currently a coach for Minnesota Thunder Academy.

Tyler Quam '12 (right) calls the University of Minnesota his second home and is pursuing degrees in theatre arts and journalism. This year, he was the recipient of the Waller Award from the College of Liberal Arts. He enjoys working as a marketing associate at the Rarig Center. Passionate about music education, **Noah**



Quam '14 (left) is a student at Augsburg College and was recently awarded the prestigious Hognander Award. He is looking forward to performing in Augsburg's Christmas tradition, *Advent Vespers*, this December.

Nick Murdakes '13 is studying Chemical Engineering at the University of Nebraska. Through his fraternity Pi Kappa Phi, Nick was selected to the 2015 Journey of Hope team. Journey of Hope is a cross-country cycling event, which supports adults and children with disabilities. In addition to training for the almost 4,000-mile ride from San Francisco to Washington, DC, Nick and his teammates each raised over \$5,000. Nick rode an average of 75 miles per day. The 2015 JOH team raised over \$600,000 to support these organizations across the country. Nick continues his work with The Ability experience through his local chapter's sponsorship of TOPPS Soccer. You can see a photo of Nick on page 2.

John Spanier '14 is currently studying abroad in London and is working on a park and recreational conservation team, cleaning up parks, ponds, and nature reserves around the London area.

Emily Martin '15, who attends Creighton University, is studying abroad in Ireland as she pursues her nursing degree. She will be attending the University of Limerick for the fall semester and is most excited about visiting many cities throughout Europe.

