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Deputy Grand Knight

Jerry Graceffo

Chancellor

Gordon Shelhaas

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Paul Gulbrandsen

Warden

Tom Rokosz

Inside Guard

Ed Sousa

Outside Guard

Rick Kuebel

Recorder

Jim Thompson

Advocate

Carmine Maida

Trustee -1 yr.

Sam Bastianelli

Trustee -2 yr.

Matt Cangemi

Trustee-3 yr.

Larry Simmons

July 2020

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Brother Knights in Action During COVID-19 Pandemic

Food for Families: St Joseph's Food Pantry & St Michael's Mother Gema: Approx. 80 Hours, \$1,700. & 1200 lbs. donated food

- Gather donated food from OLA Church and Office & deliver to St. Joe's weekly throughout the pandemic, plus 2 additional food runs to St. Michael's. Approx. 1200 lbs.
- Online & send in member donations to St. Joe's – Approx. \$1,000.
- Food donation of \$700. to Mother Gema for families of St Michael's
- Weekly food runs from OLA to St. Joe's Food Pantry & 2 additional food runs to St Michael's

Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church: 160 Hours

- Painting of the 450 parking stops throughout the OLA campus
- Painting all the decking, rails & benches around the 3 Sacred Heart Halls
- Repairing, Sanding & Painting of large picnic tables
- Repairs to shed and new ramp installation • Virtual Men's Prayer Group every Friday AM
- Virtual Patriotic Rosary every Wednesday AM
- Sewing of face masks and giving or sending to those who need them
- Council Blood Drive on July 23th at OLA
- Sanitizing the Church after Masses

Coming; New awning on deck of SHH. Cost covered by individual Brother Knight donations who will also install the awning for OLA



Habitat for Humanity: 100 Hours

- **Virtual construction project**
- **Policing of 3 acres of land for 16 new Habitat homes Depot project to sand & paint porch posts, move warehouse roof material, & remove and demo old furniture from trailer and fill dumpster**
- **Solidified partnership with Habitat Veterans Program • Online Donations – Approx. \$500.**
- **Coming; July 16th project at new home site in Bradenton Tidewell Hospice: 200 Hours**
- **5 Individual Pinning Ceremonies; 3 in LWR Hospice House, 1 in LWR Medical Center, 1 at a Veteran residence**
- **1 Veteran to Veteran Café meeting in Bradenton**
- **Group Pinning Ceremony of 50-60 Veterans at Sarasota Military Academy**
- **Sewing of isolation gowns (24) •**
- **ABC-7 Interview as Tidewell Hospice Veteran – HONORS Veterans Program**
- **Memorial Day Video of 3 Pinning Ceremony Veteran Volunteers**
- **Participation in Memorial Appreciation Parade May 29th •**
- **Veteran Card Club - Cards hand made by prisoners for Tidewell Hospice Veteran patients. Brother Frank & wife Catherine Grzelak head up the Prison Ministry at OLA. They work 2-3 days a week providing various activities and spiritual guidance for the prisoners at the Hardee Correctional Institution near Wauchula.**

by: [Liz Ramos](#) Staff Writer [Observer.com](#)

Central Park's Bill Kopcsak never imagined he would become a writer.

He spent 40 years of his life as a lawyer, which was his chosen profession to support his family. The closest he came to writing came in the form of briefs, interrogatories and lots of letters.

It wasn't until he approached retirement in 2010 he dedicated time to writing.

For a decade, Kopcsak worked on a book — “Ruth, More or Less” — about his aunt Ruth Hickehier, a German woman who married a World War II German Panzer commander, Walter Duschl, who died in combat. Later in life, after World War II, she became a U.S. citizen and married Kopcsak's uncle Pete, a former U.S. Army tank commander.

“She was glamorous, she was beautiful, she was intriguing,” he said. “She harbored a lot of secrets.”

During his visits to Dresden, Germany, to see Aunt Ruth, he would ask her about her life in Germany and her thoughts on politics.

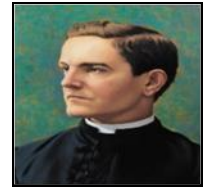
Bill's son Keith Kopcsak works at Forbes Books, a publishing company in Charleston, S.C. He made a deal with his father in February 2019. If the elder Kopcsak could finish “Ruth, More or Less” by his birthday in July, Forbes Books would publish it.

“It was a lot of work at the very end for sure, Kopcsak said.

“Maybe someday Ruth will make it to the stage,” Kopcsak said with a chuckle.

When a sense of normalcy returns, Kopcsak looks forward to volunteering with the Knights of Columbus at Our Lady of the Angels or at Tidewell Hospice once again.

For now, Kopcsak will keep writing as his leisurely hobby.



Habitat Clean up

On Thursday, June 25th, 2020, 5 Knights of Columbus Council #13341 teamed together with Habitat at the Habitat Depot in Palmetto and completed the following tasks:

Unloaded two trailers containing used furniture. Broke down furniture and placed in garbage dumpster for removal.

Re-positioned several trailers in the depot yard for easier access to load and take to job sites.

Removed large pile of sheet metal roofing panels from shelving inside building. Material placed outside and stored between storage containers in front yard.

Filled holes and finished sanded porch posts in preparation for same to be installed at a job site at a later date.

Activity was coordinated by Mike Mahan, Habitat Chair. This represented the 6th Habitat project in 2020 and cumulatively the 42nd monthly project in a row since January 2017.



L-R: Vin Misciagna, Rick Kuebel, Mike Mahan, John Joly, and Jerry Graceffo



<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=307641747089099>



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Congratulations on receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award.

On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank you for your service to your fellow Americans and those most in need. Through your dedicated service, you have ensured the continuation of America's unparalleled commitment to improving the lives of others.

Over this past year, you have served as a model of the American spirit. Your many hours of service have strengthened the bonds of cooperation and trust that bring people together, while helping to address some of the greatest challenges of our time.

One of our Nation's greatest strengths remains the compassion of our everyday citizens, who give so willingly of themselves and their lives for the benefit of others. Each generation of hardworking and kindhearted volunteers helps to write a new chapter of American greatness, and our Nation is proud for your commitment to this honorable tradition.

As we reflect on your many acts of kindness and charity over this past year, our Nation draws inspiration from those who answer the call to help their communities and our Nation. With your continued efforts to build on our Nation's culture of service, America will proudly remain a land of freedom and opportunity for all.

Thank you for your enduring commitment to serving your community and our Nation. I trust that you will continue to work for the betterment of others and an even stronger future for the American people.



The President's Volunteer Service Award is presented to:

OUR LADY OF ANGELS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
SILVER

By the Corporation for National and Community Service in recognition and appreciation for their commitment to strengthen our nation and communities through volunteer service.

2019
Awarded

Corporation for
NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE

POINTS
OF LIGHT



On Thursday, July 16th, 2020, 7 Knights of Columbus Council #13341 and one Knight's grandson teamed together with Habitat at a new construction home site located at 2207 11th Street West in Bradenton.

The project team completed the following tasks:

Completed landscaping tasks in preparation of laying sod at 2207 and adjoining new construction home site located at 2211 11th Street West, Bradenton.

Rake and shovel dirt from high to low areas.

Pitch lot from foundation outward to allow proper drainage.

Pitch property lines to prevent water drainage onto adjoining properties.

Install garden edging to form shrub beds in front of both construction sites.

Unload trailer containing dozens of bushes and several trees.

Plant all bushes in both shrub beds.

Plant trees at predetermined locations on both properties.

Unload mulch from trailer and install in both shrub beds.

Clean up and store all tools.

This activity was coordinated by Mike Mahan, Habitat Chair. This represented the 7th Habitat project in 2020 and cumulatively the 43rd monthly project in a row since January 2017.



From L-R: Gordon Shellhaas, Rick Kuebel, Vin Misciagna, John Joly, Jerry Graceffo, Mike Mahan, Tom Rokosz and Gavin Rokosz





For The Good of The Order

Republican Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a law Tuesday requiring parents or legal guardians to consent before a minor can obtain an abortion.

The bill, SB 404, requires that a parent or guardian consent before a minor can obtain an abortion and increases penalties for abortion providers who refuse to comply with Florida's requirement to care for babies born alive in botched abortions.

"Today is a win for Florida families," "We are grateful to Governor DeSantis for swiftly signing into law crucial protections for young girls facing an unexpected pregnancy," Susan B. Anthony List President Marjorie Dannenfelser said in a Tuesday statement. "This legislation is backed by a majority of Florida voters and simply requires that minors receive parental consent when seeking an abortion."

"Parents in the Sunshine State will be able to protect their daughters from the abortion industry, which prioritizes its own profits over the health and safety of vulnerable girls," she added. "We thank Senator Stargel and Representative Grall, both members of our National Pro-Life Women's Caucus, as well as the Florida Family Policy Council and the Florida Catholic Conference for their tireless work advancing this





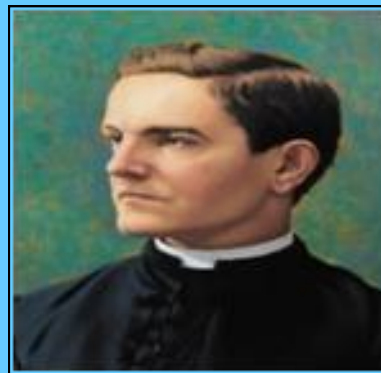
The Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that Montana may not bar religious schools from participating in the state's tax-credit scholarship program, a major win for school choice advocates and parents who wish to use their scholarship funds to send their children to religious schools.

The case arose when three families sued Montana's Department of Revenue after they were blocked from using scholarship funds for their children's tuition at Stillwater Christian School.

The Montana Supreme Court previously decided that the solution would be to scrap the entire scholarship program, a move that an attorney for the families argued was only made because the program included religious schools.

Chief Justice Roberts wrote the opinion for the majority, which included the court's conservative justices, and expressed his agreement with the family's attorney. The Supreme Court reversed the ruling of Montana Supreme Court, which Roberts said was "to the detriment of religious and non-religious schools alike."

"The Montana Supreme Court invalidated the program pursuant to a state law provision that expressly discriminates on the basis of religious status," Roberts wrote. "The Court applied that provision to hold that religious schools were barred from participating in the program. Then, seeing no other "mechanism" to make absolutely sure that religious schools received no aid, the court chose to invalidate the entire program."



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The Supreme Court threw out the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals' ruling blocking two Republican-backed pro-life laws on Thursday, Reuters reported.

One of these laws would require women to see an ultrasound of their unborn baby before they obtained abortions, while the other one would require parental notification when a minor sought an abortion.

Vice President Mike Pence signed the ultrasound law when he was governor of Indiana in



Chaplain

Fr. Sebastian
Program Director
John Joly

Membership
Dennis Richardson

Public Relations
Open

Community
Gordon Shellhaas

Family
Matt Cangemi

Faith
Steve Balazic

Life
John Finnegan

Grand Knight's Korner

Father Sebastian has agreed to transfer to our Council from St. Thomas More! He has also agreed to be our Council Chaplain! His time is extremely limited right now, but he said he would try to make any ceremonial functions or spiritual activities whenever possible. Father was complimentary of the good work we do, especially what he has seen recently. He was thankful for our help moving the Church risers out and back for the new windows installation, and, sanitizing the Church after daily and weekend Masses. I assured him that we are here to serve the Church and are committed to providing our time and talent whenever and wherever necessary going forward. All in all, a great meeting! Thank You, Brothers for all you do...let your light shine! In His Service,

John Joly
Grand Knight
Council 13341