

Kindness Campaign: a new tradition in the making

Erin Brody, Staff Writer



Vinny the Bearcat in front of the Fred Rogers Trolley and Center for Stuff the Trolley in 2019. (SOURCE: SVC FLICKR)

The Fred Rogers Center plays an important role in student life at Saint Vincent, from hosting the Fred Rogers Scholarship program to offering job opportunities for both current students and alumni. Adding to the list of beneficial programs offered for Saint Vincent students, the Fred Rogers Center is hosting SVC's first ever Kindness Campaign.

Dr. Dana Winters, executive director and faculty of the Fred Rogers Center, explained that the Citrone 33 Foundation, which focuses on mental health within colleges, approached the Center and requested to share their mission of spreading kindness and to apply it to SVC. "Over the last decade, instances of

behavioral and mental health concerns among children and young people have increased steadily," Winters said. "While mental health supports and services may be on the rise, it is crucial that we all do our part to see, hear and acknowledge young people and to help them to see themselves as important, special and belonging to a greater community."

Winters said one of the best ways to promote positive mental health among young people is to help them understand the importance of showing "kindness, compassion and empathy toward others," which is why the Citrone 33 Foundation proposed hosting the Kindness Campaign.

She also explained that Fred Rogers — a

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COVID-19 booster clinic hosted by SVC

Sean Callahan, News Editor

The arrival of the COVID-19 vaccine in 2020 sent shockwaves throughout Saint Vincent College. In April and May of that year, SVC students, faculty and staff had the opportunity to receive the vaccine at the Fred Rogers Center on campus. Lines of students, stretching between multiple rooms of the Fred Rogers center, waiting to be vaccinated became a common sight on campus. For many, the vaccine was—and still is—a sign of a near-return to normalcy.

According to FDA.gov, the website of the Food and Drug Administration, booster shots—extra doses of vaccines—for the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines were approved for vaccine recipients 18 and older who are at high risk of contracting severe illness or who are often exposed to the SARS-CoV-2 virus through their occupations. The FDA announced the approval of boosters on Oct. 20.

Shortly after, on Oct. 25, Dr. Jeff Mallory, Executive Vice President of SVC, sent out an email announcing that Mainline Pharmacy would be on campus to administer Moderna booster shots. The boosters were available via appointment to individuals who had their second Moderna

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NEWS

Providing opportunities to spread kindness

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name synonymous with kindness — directly relates to the Kindness Campaign because the campaign extends his idea of being kind by showing that kindness “should be at the core of every thought and action.”

Makenzee Knott, junior English major, was one of the students who assisted with the campaign.

“At first, we began to think about ideas or activities that the SVC community

by being mindful of our consumption and use of materials,” Winters said. “However, I am most excited for the stories of kindness across Saint Vincent that we hope to capture during the campaign.”

Knott also shared a similar sentiment.

“I think our most desired outcome of this campaign would be to encourage kindness in such a time of uncertainty,” Knott said. “Even still facing the afteref-

“I think our most desired outcome of this campaign would be to encourage kindness in such a time of uncertainty. Even still facing the aftereffects of COVID, I think the SVC community would really benefit from different acts of kindness and how to spread that kindness themselves.”
- Makenzee Knott, English major

would not only enjoy but could give them the opportunity to join in on spreading kindness as well,” Knott said. “We then narrowed down our ideas and ultimately created several fun events and opportunities.”

These opportunities will take place over the course of three weeks in November. Some activities have already occurred, like thanking a veteran by creating a poster and a paint night in the Carey Center on Nov. 10. Future events will include the Trolleygram Table on Nov. 17.

Winters feels confident about the results of these events.

“I am looking forward to the ‘Upcycling Crafting Event,’ which encourages to show kindness toward the environment

fects of COVID, I think the SVC community would really benefit from different acts of kindness and how to spread that kindness themselves.”

As for the outcomes, Dr. Winters hopes to see the SVC community come together to share their stories and listen to each other.

“This is in direct relation to the quote from Sister Mary Lou Kownacki, often referenced by Fred Rogers, ‘There isn’t anyone you couldn’t love once you’ve heard their story,’” Winters said.

The Kindness Campaign began Nov. 1, and activities will continue throughout the month until Nov. 21. Most events will take place in the Carey Center at various times throughout the coming weeks.

Booster recipients describe clinic experience

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vaccine dose administered at least six months prior to receiving the booster.

On Nov. 3, Moderna boosters were administered at the Fred Rogers Center. Dr. Jason Jividen, Professor of Political Science, and Rachel Andreola, sophomore mathematics major, both received their booster shots at the Center. They each described the process as relaxed, organized and not very busy.

“The process was efficient, and the volunteers were friendly,” Jividen said. “I was in and out in less than half an hour. The woman giving me the vaccination was a pro—a retired pediatric nurse.”

Both Jividen and Andreola described having sore arms after the experience. Andreola also mentioned slight body aches. But they emphasized that the symptoms were brief and minimal.

On Nov. 11, Saint Vincent will once again be hosting a Moderna vaccine booster clinic. Most individuals who received their second dose of the Moderna vaccine six months ago will now be eligible to receive the booster.

New Strategic Plan at Saint Vincent

Delaney Fox, *Staff Writer*

Every five years, Saint Vincent College introduces a new Strategic Plan outlining the school's priorities. This semester marks the implementation of the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan at Saint Vincent.

The Strategic Plan is rooted in Saint Vincent's mission statement. An introductory note describes the college's commitment to students and community, outlines the college's mission and defines the Plan as a living document.

The introduction of the Strategic Plan was written by Fr. Paul Taylor, President of Saint Vincent College.

"We draw upon the Rule of St. Benedict, the wisdom of Pope Saint John Paul II and Pope Francis, the work of our founder Archabbot Boniface Wimmer, the teachings of Fred Rogers and other religious and scholarly works to shape a Plan that prioritizes the sacred nature of each member of our community," Taylor said.

Taylor elaborated on the focus of the Saint Vincent community in the introduction of the Plan.

"The transformation at the heart of the Saint Vincent experience begins with an articulation and demonstration that the life of each student has value, and indeed, is sacred," Taylor wrote.

The Strategic Plan also emphasized two main goals for Saint Vincent's sustainability.

"Two realities, (1) a need for infrastructure repair/upgrade and (2) a preference for enhancing environmental sustainability through dedicated green initiatives, give Saint Vincent an opportunity to prioritize infrastructure repair within a culture of sustainability," Taylor wrote.

The Plan then briefly introduces strategies to improve financial aid and develop both online education and study

abroad experiences. The introduction concludes with a description of the intertwining of science and religion.

The Strategic Plan continues with an outline of four pillars. Each of the four pillars contains three Strategic Priorities, and each Strategic Priority contains two to five Action Items. The Action Items detail how Saint Vincent aims to achieve the goals outlined in the priorities.

The first pillar is Mission Integration. Its Strategic Priorities include expanding hospitality and feelings of belonging amongst the Saint Vincent community. This pillar seeks to advance the motto of Saint Vincent: *Veri Iustique Scientia Vindex*, or "knowledge is the guardian of truth and justice."

Saint Vincent aims to achieve these priorities by fostering a community culture based on the Catholic, Benedictine and liberal arts mission of the college, identifying opportunities for Benedictines to connect with the Saint Vincent community, investing in professional development opportunities and more.

The second pillar is Academic Excellence. Its Strategic Priorities include establishing study abroad programs with Benedictine monasteries and other colleges and/or universities around the world. This pillar also seeks to promote the development of critical skills and encourage collaboration between students and faculty.

Saint Vincent aims to achieve these priorities by establishing a "Round Table of Scholars" with faculty chairs to promote collaboration throughout the college and more.

Fr. Paul Taylor further described Saint Vincent's intended actions.

"The learning environment that is created by enhancing and developing major programs of study along with the imple-

mentation of the new Core Curriculum, providing new experiential learning opportunities, and fundraising to support scholarships and projects are among the ways the Plan will positively impact our current and future students," Taylor said.

The third pillar is Student Success. Its Strategic Priorities include promoting a respect for all people, encouraging hospitality across the community and supporting a transformative experience for all students.

Saint Vincent aims to achieve these priorities by supporting student health and well-being, promoting participation and diversity and supporting student learning.

The fourth pillar is Institutional Sustainability. Its Strategic Priorities include building financial stability to ensure that resources are available for both current and future students, increasing funded financial aid resources and strengthening environmental sustainability and vitality of the infrastructure across campus.

Saint Vincent aims to achieve these priorities by implementing a new Comprehensive Campaign, developing a master plan for infrastructure and more.

Dr. Jeff Mallory, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Saint Vincent College, commented on the implementation of the new Plan.

"A strong reassurance of the commitment to our college's founding, history, sponsorship and the produced results was very evident. We are grateful for every person who gave their time, effort and feedback during the planning process, and we are excited to now begin implementing this new Strategic Plan," Mallory said.

For further information, students and faculty can find the new Strategic Plan on the Saint Vincent College website.

SPORTS

Opinion: Should athletes be required to get vaccinated?

Luke Mich, *Sports Editor*



Athletes, such as the NBA's Kyrie Irving, have refused to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. (SOURCE: MICH)

Over this past summer, New York City mayor Bill de Blasio introduced a strict vaccine mandate that would affect nearly all indoor businesses in the city, including entertainment venues such as sports stadiums. Since the mandate went into effect on Aug. 17, customers and workers have been required to provide proof of vaccination against COVID-19 in order to enter any of these indoor businesses. Notable entertainment venues impacted by the mandate included the New York Knicks' Madison Square Garden and the Brooklyn Nets' Barclays Center, where the city's NBA teams play.

So, in September, when Kyrie Irving, the star point guard for the Brooklyn Nets, chose to remain unvaccinated, the basketball world wondered if the man-

date would prevent him from playing.

As speculated, a week before the team's opening basketball game of the 2021-22 season, the Nets general manager announced that Irving's choice restricted "his ability to be a full-time member of the team," and that the team "will not permit any member to participate with part-time availability." It was official: Irving would not play nor practice with the team until he got the COVID-19 vaccine.

The announcement divided fans. Many advocated for Irving and his stance, citing freedom of choice and free will, while others told Irving to be smart for himself, his family and his team, urging him to get the vaccine.

While all cities and sports teams have their own regulations regarding COVID-19, teams that play in indoor

areas—such as basketball and hockey teams—have been hit most harshly with vaccine mandates. Los Angeles, for example, has a pending vaccine mandate that will go into effect on Nov. 29, whereas San Francisco has already implemented its own mandate.

Fortunately, those cities' NBA teams are all 100% vaccinated; however, within the league, 50 to 60 players are still unvaccinated, including Irving. The difference in numbers between vaccinated and unvaccinated players has sparked a rather hot debate: should the vaccine mandate apply to athletes?

My answer? No.

My reason is simple: free will. Everyone has the right to form his or her own stances, preferences, beliefs and opinions, and Irving—as well as millions of other Americans—is within his rights to decide not to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. While every action has a consequence (or in this case, non-action), forbidding an athlete from playing the sport that he loves, taking away his salary and preventing him from even being with the team is an excessive punishment for someone who wished to exercise his medical freedom.

While many conspiracies from "anti-vaxxers" have been refuted, the crux of their argument remains legitimate as they express concern about any long-term, damaging effects that may occur after receiving the vaccine—a vaccine that, as many cite, was produced three times faster than the average development of a vaccine. However, this vaccine in particular was produced so quickly be-

Divisive mandate in New York City spurs debate over COVID-19 regulations in sports

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cause of the flood of funding and time put into research and development. Its rapid production is an astonishing accomplishment. This quick and concentrated effort from researchers has undoubtedly saved millions of lives worldwide.

Where Saint Vincent College is concerned, as well as all other colleges across the country, I am similarly against the idea of enforcing vaccine mandates for NCAA athletes and coaches. While I am sure most of the Saint Vincent student body has been encouraged by coaches, professors, staff and faculty to consider getting the vaccine, an individual student's free will and personal beliefs are reason enough to reject a vaccine mandate.

Admittedly, vaccine mandates may prevent scheduling conflicts for sports seasons, such as games and matches getting postponed or cancelled due to COVID-related reasons. Upperclassmen may remember last spring when Saint Vincent was in lockdown for nearly a full week, which prematurely ended all of our sports teams' seasons except baseball. Seasons ended days, even hours before conference playoffs and championships for most teams.

Although vaccine mandates may lead to much less of a hassle for sports and professions, I support the right of every person to make his or her own choice. Individuals who want to be vaccinated have had the opportunity to do so since vaccines were readily available throughout the nation. Individuals who are not vaccinated know the risks of contracting the virus.

As for regulations in our teams at Saint Vincent, currently, no one needs to quarantine besides the athlete who has the virus (if they test positive from one of their mandated twice-a-week tests), and any close contact athletes who are also unvaccinated. Vaccinated athletes are not regulated so closely.

In fact, COVID-19 cases are considerably low this year on campus because of the amount of Saint Vincent students that are vaccinated. As of Aug. 30, according to an email sent by Dr. Jeff Mallory, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Saint Vincent College, nearly two-thirds of the student body was already vaccinated (at 64%), a number that will undoubtedly continue to rise. The campus has yet to witness any serious outbreaks this year, and odds are, the growing number of vaccinated students will prevent any outbreaks from occurring. Very few athletes have had to quarantine so far this fall compared to last school year. With this information in mind, I believe the current COVID-19 regulations the school currently has in place regarding student athletes should stay as they are—allowing individuals to make their own decisions about receiving the vaccine.

Team Standings

Men's Swimming

Team	W	L	Streak
Grove City	2	1	W1
W&J	2	2	W1
Westminster	1	1	W1
Bethany	1	1	W1
Saint Vincent	0	3	L3
Chatham	0	4	L4

Schedule: @Grove City 11/13 1 PM, @F&M 11/19, W&J 12/4 1 PM

Men's Cross Country

Schedule: NCAA Regionals 11/13 11AM

Results: 2nd at Westminster, 2nd at Saint Vincent Invitational, 8th at Lehigh, 18th at Oberlin, 2nd at PAC Championships

Women's Cross Country

Schedule: NCAA Regionals 11/13 Noon

Results: 3rd at Westminster, 1st at Saint Vincent Invitational, 15th at Lock Haven, 20th at Lehigh, 26th at Oberlin, 7th at PAC Championships

Men's Basketball

Schedule: Mount Union 11/10 7 PM, @Allegheny 7 PM, Carlow 11/15 7 PM

Women's Basketball

Schedule: @Juniata 11/9 6 PM, @Marietta 11/17 7 PM, @Messiah 11/19 7:30 PM

Football

Team	W	L	Streak
W&J	7	2	L1
Westminster	7	2	W4
Car. Mellon	7	2	W6
Grove City	6	3	L2
Case Western	6	3	W4
Saint Vincent	4	5	L2
Geneva	4	5	W2
Waynesburg	2	7	W1
Bethany	1	8	L3
Thiel	0	9	L9

Schedule: Bethany 11/13 1 PM

Women's Swimming

Team	W	L	Streak
Westminster	2	0	W2
Chatham	3	1	L1
Franciscan	2	1	W2
W&J	2	2	W1
Grove City	1	1	L1
Saint Vincent	1	3	L2
Bethany	0	2	L2

Schedule: Grove City 11/13 11 AM, @F&M 11/19, W&J 12/4 1 PM

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ARTS & CULTURE

Theatre thumps back to the SVC Stage

Sean Callahan, Arts & Culture Editor



A scene from the play, *Clue*, where Wadsworth (Justin Massetto) and the six guests stare in shock into a room, where *The Motorist* (Ethan Kammerer) lies dead. (SOURCE: BRANDT)

The Performing Arts Center, which has not held theatrical performances since Feb. of 2020, witnessed its first live performance since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic when the SVC Players took to the stage to perform *Clue*, a comedic mystery in which several characters try to solve the murder of their party host. The play ran for three shows,

from Oct. 29 to Oct. 31.

Assistant Professor of Theater Dr. Gregory Brandt, who acts as director of the SVC Players—a student group that produces a fall play and a spring musical annually—described the turnout for the play’s auditions as greater than he had expected, which he deemed to be a positive sign considering the recent lack of activity due to COVID-19.

The chosen cast consisted of 22 students, including actors and backstage crew members.

“We haven’t had any live performances in a year and a half,” Brandt said. “Last fall, we did an online production of ‘Objection! Disorder in the Court’ written specifically for online performances. There’s a great excitement among the students to perform live theater again!”

Senior marketing major Kendra Smithbauer, who played the lead role, Mrs. White—one of the six guests attempting to solve the murder—believes that the cast did very well together, and described the production’s turnout as excellent, in part due to the show’s familiar, iconic subject: *Clue*.

Smithbauer described the play as a fun, but challenging, experience.

After SVC, Smithbauer believes she will most likely pursue a career in marketing, but she hopes to reside in Pittsburgh, where she can find other small theatre groups to participate in.

Senior voice performance major Justin Massetto, who played the primary lead—the butler, Wadsworth—enjoyed performing in *Clue* and the experience he shared with the rest of the cast.

Massetto is auditioning for a summer opera academy in Italy and intends to take a gap year before pursuing a master’s degree either in vocal pedagogy (the science of *Continued on page 7*



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SVC students reflect on performances of Clue

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teaching voice) or speech pathology. He would love to come back to SVC to teach voice.

Both Smithbauer and Massetto were humbled to receive their parts in Clue, and they highlighted the

carry into auditions for the spring musical, "All Shook Up." The auditions will take place on Nov. 29 and 30. Additionally, Brandt believes that summer theater has a strong chance of returning in 2022.

"The most enjoyable moment for me was watching the bond grow between the cast. They were a really nice group of aspiring actors who wanted to do well and support each other."

- Dr. Gregory Brandt

hard work the cast put in to produce the show.

Dr. Brandt was very pleased with the cast's performance. He felt they listened to each other well and executed their lines adequately. In particular, he emphasized the chemistry of the SVC performers.

"The most enjoyable moment for me was watching the bond grow between the cast," Brandt said. "They were a really nice group of aspiring actors who wanted to do well and support each other."

Brandt believes Clue has created a surge of renewed energy for theatre at SVC, which he hopes will

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History's gravest injustice

David Collins, Staff Writer



Joe Farrell graduated from SVC in '68 with a degree in psychology. (SOURCE: STVINCENT.EDU)

The Charles G. Manoli Tribute Lecture series recommenced after a postponement due to COVID-19. Joe Farrell, class of '68, took the podium in the Fred Rogers Center on Oct. 28. Members from the class of '68 joined current students and faculty in attendance of the lecture.

The late Charles Manoli Sr. was a Saint Vincent College emeritus professor of history who taught at SVC for over 40 years. Farrell, one of the many students taught by Manoli, described the honored professor as “a history professor who took pity on me”. The bond between professor and student then “turned into a friendship of almost 50 years”.

After graduating from Saint Vincent, Farrell went from working as a psychologist in a maximum-security prison to the executive director of The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Farrell has now taken to authoring and advocating for history, even after getting four straight Cs in Manoli’s history classes more than fifty years ago.

With Manoli’s name displayed on the screen behind him, Farrell paid tribute to his friend

and professor as he delivered his lecture, titled “A Grave Injustice: America’s Founders and Their Burial Sites.”

Farrell spent his address indexing the contents of his numerous books, which describe the noteworthy graves that he and his coauthors have visited.

Following descriptions of his personal favorite graves—ranging from sports stars of his hometown of Brooklyn to humorous names and messages—Farrell moved to his titular topic: the disgraceful way that America’s founding fathers are honored and remembered.

“We included 212 people as founders. On our website, we have a wall of shame, which includes graves we think are a disgrace. And there are 46 graves on that website that we think are a disgrace to the memory of the person buried in them,” Farrell said.

Of the 212 individuals who met Farrell’s

“We included 212 people as founders. On our website we have a wall of shame, which includes graves we think are a disgrace. And there are 46 graves on that website that we think are a disgrace to the memory of the person buried in them.” – Joe Farrell '68, Manoli lecture series speaker

criteria for the “founding father” designation, only 28 made the “best condition list,” classified by Farrell as being suitably honored.

Conversely, Farrell designated 15 of the 212 individuals’ graves as “lost” and 20 others as “hard to get to.”

Farrell continues to shed light on the disgraceful manner in which these individuals are honored—which he sees as a serious injustice—through the ongoing publications of his books and updates on his website, adoptapatriot.com.

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