# RECONNECTING: HOME ECONOMICS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



# March 2020: Looking Back on 2019 and Looking Ahead!

## **Greetings from the Dean**



Hello Home Economics and Household Science alumni,

I'm pleased to send you the 2019 Reconnecting Newsletter, which includes news and information from the past months. In my first months as Dean, I have enjoyed learning about the history of the Home Economics program.

I'm sincerely grateful to Merry Beazely and Millie Reynolds for their continued leadership role with the newsletter. I urge you all to continue sharing your stories and updates with Merry and Millie to

ensure the legacy of Home Economics lives on.

I look forward to meeting many of you at upcoming Home Economics events.

# Jane

https://pharmacy-nutrition.usask.ca/news/2019/jane-alcorn-accepts-new-challenge-in-usask-pharmacy-and-nutrition.php

# Meet the New Dean of Pharmacy and Nutrition

With thanks to Kieran Kobitz for his article on Dean Alcorn.

Jane joined the College in 2001 and is a member of the Drug Discovery and Development Research Group, and previously served as the University Veterinarian. Alcorn has also worked to enhance the college's graduate programs to increase student engagement, and to introduce self-assessment of competencies and more rigor to the programs. In 2016, she was awarded the university's Distinguished Graduate Supervisor Award. She played a key role in helping establish the Cannabinoid Research Initiative of Saskatchewan (CRIS), an interdisciplinary research team exploring the application of cannabinoids and derivatives with humans and animals for health, disease and disorders. CRIS features researchers from across campus, as well as other Canadian and international research institutions.

While neither a pharmacist nor a dietitian, Jane has worked extensively with both divisions. Alcorn serves as a board member for the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation and previously was a director with the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences. As part of her

new responsibilities as dean, she serves on the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan board, as an observer on the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals council and will work to increase engagement with the Saskatchewan Dietitians Association and Dietitians of Canada. Quoting from Kieran's article "I plan to help create a place where all faculty, staff and students are proud to be a part of and proud to contribute to," said Alcorn. "It's important to me to ensure supports and programs are in place to produce high-quality results at the undergraduate and graduate levels."

# A. Ongoing Support for Home Economics

Former Deans of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition have led initiatives to sustain the promise, made in 1987, to ensure the importance of the College of Home Economics and the contributions of its graduates, faculty, staff and friends continue to be celebrated. Our new Dean, Dr. Jane Alcorn, is most supportive and pleased to provide in-kind support and specific resources from the College. College of Pharmacy and Nutrition staff, Andy Collin (Development Officer, Kieran Kobitz (Communications and Alumni Relations Specialist), Sandy Knowles (Executive Assistant to the Dean) and Claire Sutton (College Receptionist and Undergraduate Programs Secretary) provide excellent assistance with various activities. Nutrition faculty Drs. Carol Henry and Allison Cammer, as well as Cathy Langdon (Food and Nutrition Lab Coordinator) are providing valuable support.

The current financial status of the U of S and its colleges is challenging. As a result, along with similar considerations in other units, our Home Economics initiatives are being reviewed with the aim of generating funds from Home Economics alumni and other sources to continue to support Home Economics. The following are the major ongoing activities that will enable us to keep Home Economics **ALIVE AND WELL** at the University of Saskatchewan.

**Please Note Important Information:** connecting with Home Economics graduates – we have been corresponding with Home Economics alums over the years by email or post. Last year we wrote to say that in future we'd only be able to contact grads via email. We hope that for those of you who don't have email access at home, you'll be able to check out the Home Economics website and issues of **Reconnecting** at a friend's place or a Library.

Millie and Merry and our Engagement Committee have been working on collecting missing email addresses to add the USask database. However, we recently learned that we can't do this, because of federal legislation, and in thinking this through, we shouldn't speak for you. So, to have your name and email added to the database, and to receive the *Reconnecting* newsletter and other information from the College and USask, please do the following:

- update your information by clicking on the relations website
- or call the Alumni Relations office at 1-800-699-1907. alumni

## 1. Home Economics Engagement Committee

The former Home Economics Advisory Committee has joined with the Edith Rowles Simpson Lecture Committee to form the *Home Economics Engagement Committee*. This committee has been expanded, renamed, reorganized and repositioned within the College, and includes the following members: Andy Collin (Chair), Dean Jane Alcorn, Linda Ashley, Merry Beazely, Carolyn Chu, Barb Cox-Lloyd, Dr. Carol Henry, Kim Kennett, Kieran Kobitz, Dorothy Long, Hiedi Matt, Rose

Olsen and Gayleen Turner. The Committee will meet 4-5 times a year to advise on and coordinate Home Economics projects and events. We extend our sincere thanks to members for volunteering their time and expertise to Home Economics engagement.

## 2. College of Home Economics Annual Spring Luncheon

The annual Luncheon was initiated in 2016. It is a great event where Home Economics graduates and colleagues in the profession have a chance to chat about their degrees, their lives since graduation, and celebrate milestones and successes. What a great looking group of attendees at the 2019 Luncheon! And individual classes of 1982 and 1984 got together!







At the 2019 Luncheon, we honored Millie Reynolds. Linda Ashley and Andy Colin extended sincere thanks to Millie for her outstanding contributions and support to us. Millie has been our *touchstone* for the Home Economics community. She has advocated for and educated us on the Home Economics profession, communicated on our behalf with so many of you, and co-edits the *Home Economics Reconnecting* newsletter. Check out a profile on Millie and her many accomplishments in *Reconnecting 2018*. Pictured at left are Linda, Millie and Andy.

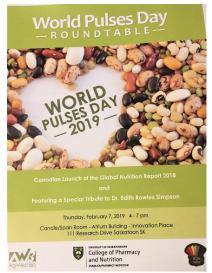
The next Home Economics Luncheon will not be held in 2020 due to the COVID-19 situation.

## 3. Dr. Edith Rowles Simpson Lecture

Previous hard-working Simpson Lecture Committees, with representatives from ASHE, SHETA, SDA and the University have, since 1974, planned 23 excellent Edith Rowles Simpson Lectures. The Lecture series honours the memory of Dr. Simpson, former Dean of the College of Home Economics, and celebrates her outstanding contributions to homes, families and education in Saskatchewan and beyond.



On February 7, 2019, marking the Canadian launching of the *Global Nutrition Report 2018* and the celebration of **United Nations World Pulses Day**, the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and the Edith Rowles Simpson Lecture Series, in collaboration with Ag-West Bio, organized a *World Pulses Day Roundtable*. The event featured a special tribute to Dr. Simpson, presented by **Kim Kennett** (*pictured at left*). A reception followed, enabling participants to discuss the presentations, ideas and questions while enjoying pulsebased foods.



The Global Nutrition Report was presented by **Dominic Schofield, Professional Affiliate**, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, and a specialist in providing strategic and technical support on the social impact initiatives in complex political environments. The *Global Nutrition Report* is the world's foremost account on the status of malnutrition around the world, tracking progress and efforts to improve. Dominic's presentation was followed by an 11-member panel discussion of local and national experts in global nutrition.

The panel included **David McInnes**, who was honored to represent the **2019 Edith Rowles Simpson Lecture Series**. David is Principal of DMci Strategies and Senior Fellow at Canada 2020. He is a renowned strategic advisor, speaker and facilitator of change and opportunity facing the food system.

Millie has provided below highlights from the panel discussion:

Agricultural considerations – \$2.5 B of pulse crops exported from Saskatchewan last year; Saskatchewan raises 90% lentils grown in Canada; provincial and federal governments assist in increasing value-added processing, breeding and marketing pulses; CO2 reduces protein and mineral quality in plants; research in pulses continues to address changes in weather, pests, water and micro-organisms in soil; research involves adding other nutrients such as Vitamin A, iron to pulses as a low-cost intervention in improving diets.

**Nutrition issues – c**oncern with underweight and overweight population; stunting in children in Ethiopia and its effects on mental capacity; 6 of 11 factors in disease cited in *Global Nutrition Report* are diet related.

**Social issues** – often girls are at the bottom of opportunities (marriage, school, diet); empowering women is effective in improving economic and nutritional status of families; partnerships are needed to raise nutrition levels; conflict works against better nutrition; Canada is the only G7 country without a National School Food Policy.

The Simpson Committee hosted a breakfast to meet further with David and Dominic. Pictured in the front row (I to r) are Dr. Carol Henry (Assistant Dean of Nutrition and Simpson Committee member), David McInnes (2019 Simpson Lecturer) and Carolyn Chu (Simpson Committee). In the back row are Shawna Bieber (Nutrition Project Manager), Kim Kennett (Simpson tribute), Dominic Schofield and Merry Beazely (Simpson Committee).



A **subcommittee of the new Engagement Committee**, comprised of Barb Cox-Lloyd, Carol Henry, Kim Kennett, Dorothy Long and Hiedi Matt, will be planning the 2020-21 Simpson Lecture.

## 4. RECONNECTING, the Home Economics Alumni Newsletter

Our newsletter, compiled by Merry Beazely and Millie Reynolds, with valuable input from Home Economics grads and friends, is distributed annually. Please send updates and news to Andy Collin, Pharmacy and Nutrition Development Officer, at <a href="mailto:andv.collin@usask.ca">andv.collin@usask.ca</a>.

## 5. Class Reunions

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition is pleased to provide a reception and tours on campus to Home Economics classes holding reunions. Contact Andy at <a href="mailto:andy.collin@usask.ca">andy.collin@usask.ca</a> or 306-966-5823.

## Home Economics Class of 1979 Reunion – with thanks to Cindy Von Hagen and Carla Dudar

On Thursday, April 25, 2019 we met for dinner at the lovely home of Karen Davis. Along with her delicious food, we shared memories of the last 40 years. Karen gave each of us a "Bag of Swag" filled with U of S gifts. The Dean's Luncheon on Friday was a wonderful opportunity to meet with grads from other years, former Home Economics and current Pharmacy and Nutrition faculty and staff. Next, we toured the Lucky Bastards Distillery, a fabulous building, and of course enjoyed some samplers! We ended the day with dinner at the Granary and had a Candlelight Ceremony organized by Karen. On Saturday we had a tour of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, hosted by Merry Beazely and Cathy Langdon. The new Food and Nutrition facilities are outstanding, and we also enjoyed the Home Economics display in the Thorvaldson lobby. We then had lunch at Alexander's Restaurant, a popular student hangout right across from campus. Cindy and Carla thank everyone for helping organize this reunion.





## Home Economics Class of 1974 Reunion – kindly provided by Heather McAvoy

The Class of 1974 held a very successful 45-year reunion in Saskatoon on October 23-25, 2019. The class has held reunions almost every five years since our grad, and we also do a "Cumulative Letter" every five years (alternating with the reunions) so we have kept in touch quite regularly since graduation. Nonetheless — it's always great to get together! We spent the three days touring interesting sites relevant to all of us, visiting, and eating together, and are already starting to plan for our 50-year Reunion in 2024!

The photos below show the classmates at the campus event held in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and at dinner. Many thanks to Merry Beazely, Cathy Langdon and Dr. Allison Cammer. Cathy spoke about the foods-related courses in the new labs, research activities, collaborations with the Marquis Culinary Centre, the Culinary Medicine Initiative and the website "Repository for Food-Related Activities." Allison shared her research focus on nutrition care decision-making practices regarding long-term care residents who have dementia.





## September 2020 All Colleges Homecoming Reunion – Home Economics Classes Invited to Plan!



Jayne Wolfe, Alumni Engagement Officer at USask, has been most helpful in providing USask memorabilia for our reunions. She has contacted us regarding plans for the **Homecoming Reunion Weekend on September 11-12, 2020**. There will be a number of

events that Alumni Relations is hosting (free of charge) with extra memorabilia for attendees. A **Golden Grads Ceremony** for those that graduated 50 years ago will also take place. This is a special event that gives alumni the chance to re-walk the stage.

It would be great if some of our Home Economics classes planned a class reunion around this time and Jayne would be most glad to assist, as will the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. Please contact Andy Collin.

## 6. Additional Activities.....

**College of Home Economics Permanent Display** – in the lobby of the 1966 addition to the Thorvaldson Building, former home of the College, there is a comprehensive display describing the history of the College, with photos and memorabilia to enjoy.

**College of Home Economics Plaque in Convocation Hall** – a beautiful plaque on the west wall of Convocation Hall commemorates the College of Home Economics and its graduates.

**Guilford Historic Costume Collections** – Professor Marjorie (Madge) Guilford was a much-loved professor and Acting Dean of Home Economics. The Guilford Family contributed Madge's books, historic costume and doll collection to the University Library and the Drama Department.

**Home Economics Memorabilia Around Campus** – this special china collections and works of art, some of which are located at University President's residence of Dr. Peter Stoicheff. Plaques provide attribution to the generous donors of the memorabilia.

**Home Economics Ring** – have you lost your Home Economics ring? To order a replacement, contact: Tara Jewellers, 9803 102A Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5J 3A3, Phone 780-428-1542 Fax 780-425-9485.



College of Home Economics Website – a searchable Home Economics website includes history of the College, graduating class photos and information on Alumni services at <a href="http://homeeconomics.usask.ca/">http://homeeconomics.usask.ca/</a>. You can bring up your class and individual photos. Please click on the <a href="Site Map">Site Map</a>, circled in red, at the bottom of home page screen for hidden treasures, such as:

- \*The Edith Rowles Simpson Lecture series
- \*Home Economics recipients of the Governor General's Medal and Rutter Prizes
- \*HESS Presidents and Senior Sticks
- \*Initiation and Ring Ceremonies

A New Legacy Project – the Association of Saskatchewan Home Economists and the Home Economics Engagement Committee are looking at installing a fixture on campus that is outdoors and accessible for the University community and visitors, and pays tribute to the College of Home Economics and its close to 1700 graduates. Please watch for more information on an upcoming fundraising campaign to facilitate this Home Economics legacy project and other initiatives.

## B. Home Economists in Action

## Nigerian School Fees Project - Kim Kennett

Since returning from Nigeria in 2011, where she was posted while working with CUSO, Kim Kennett has been raising money to pay for school fees, books and uniforms for orphaned and vulnerable youth. Every year she supports about 8 Nigerian youth in their quest for an education.

Kim writes "Some of these have been young people I knew while I was working there, including Blessing, one of two girls who frequently visited my house and spent a lot of time with me, and her nephew, Thank God. Blessing, who is now 23, will be completing her science degree this fall and hopes to pursue a career in nursing. Thank God will be entering his second year of Education to become a teacher. All of this is coordinated through my good friend, Edi Jerry, a Nigerian I worked with at Fantsuam Foundation in Kafanchan. I am very fortunate to have someone on the other end I can rely on. Edi presents me with a budget for each student every year, pays the schools fees (and forwards receipts), buys books and uniforms, as well as frequently sending photos. When one finishes his or her schooling, there is certainly no issue with finding another to take their place! There is endless need for educational assistance in countries such as Nigeria. An education is probably the most effective way you can support a child in a developing country – it provides them with the opportunity to be self-sustaining and become a change agent in their own communities. Thanks to all those home economists and to ASHE for supporting my project over the years." To learn more, you can contact Kim at kmkennett@yahoo.ca.

## Marie Dunn and Colleagues: Update on Saplings in Ghana



The IFHE (International Federation of Home Economics) was held in Accra, Ghana in July 2000. As part of the program, the Ghana Home Economics Association organized a trip to the nearby city of Tema to plant mahogany seedlings. Marie, Kim Kennett and Millie Reynolds joined in the planting. The planting was part of the country's Millennium Tree Line project. Problems were encountered and the project was halted. However, current media reports indicate that another tree planting project has recently begun, with the aim of replenishing the dwindling tree population throughout the country.

Marie, pictured at left, was recently honoured as a *Hometown Hero*! This recognition is awarded by Soroptomist International (Saskatoon) to individuals who have contributed to the

advancement of women. Congratulations Marie! Her continued love of Africa, education and Home Economics saw Marie become an integral part of an ASHE (Saskatoon) International Development project to work with Ghana Home Economists.

## **Grandmothers 4 Grandmothers**

Marie, along with many Home Economists in Saskatchewan, volunteer their time in support of



Grandmothers 4
Grandmothers, a
fundraising arm of the
Stephen Lewis
Foundation. Home
Economics grad Sheila
McKaque chairs the
Education Committee for
the Regina branch of

G4G. These grandmothers and grand-others help grandmothers in Africa who, through the loss of their children due to AIDS, are now raising their grandchildren. The G4Gs now number over 240

groups across Canada as well as some in the UK, Australia, and the USA. You'll recognize many Home Ec grads in the photo above. Many thanks to Mary MacFarlane-Sefton, President of G4G Saskatoon, for providing the photo. We are so proud of the contributions home economists continue to provide, using their skills, talents, and values in making life better for grandmothers and their grandchildren in Africa.

# Saskatchewan Agriculture Hall of Fame Recognizes Home Economists

The Saskatchewan Agriculture Hall of Fame formally recognizes individuals who have made/are making significant and distinguished contributions to the welfare and improvement of Saskatchewan agriculture. The recipients are honoured at an induction ceremony and their portrait and biography is then displayed at a Gallery located at the Western Development Museum.

Many of the honorees to date are Home Economists, and include: Delcie Isobel Beeler, Linda Braun, Ann Colley, Alma Jean Copeland, Liz Delahey, Abigail 'Delury, Alma Ducie, Joan Heath, Thelma Howard, Lillian Vigrass McConnell, Emmie Oddie, Bertha Oxner, Margaret Patttilo, Edith Child Rowles Simpson and Euphie Thomson. For a description of the distinguished contributions of each home economist and others, go to Saskatchewan Agriculture Hall of Fame at the website www.sahf.ca.

## **Canadian Symposium XVI February 2021**

The Canadian Symposium on Home Economics will take place February 19-21, 2021 in Saskatoon. This biennial conference is hosted by various cities across the Canada and has drawn scholars and practitioners from around the world, including Japan, Malta, Nigeria, Egypt, Kenya, and Saudi Arabia. It provides a forum for sharing information and research, exploring and discussing questions related to the field. It also provides an opportunity for action planning to strengthen home economics/family studies/human ecology/family and consumer science education at public school and post-secondary levels. Please stay tuned for more information.

# C. Program News

# **College of Education**

The post BED 30-credit unit, part-time Certificate in Practical and Applied Arts - Home Economics focuses on the family unit: ecosystems, consumerism, living environments, financial management, politics, and clothing and textiles. See <a href="https://admissions.usask.ca/practical-and-applied-arts.php#About">https://admissions.usask.ca/practical-and-applied-arts.php#About</a>. Patti Gillies, Advisor to the program, reports that unfortunately there are no students taking the Certificate courses at this time. If you know of any students interested, please refer them to <a href="mailto:patricia.gillies@usask.ca">patricia.gillies@usask.ca</a>. Patti is very helpful!

# **College of Pharmacy and Nutrition**

**Dietitian Call Centre: Nutrition Advice and Information a Phone Call Away** *With thanks to Kieran Kobitz for this article.* 

Following a successful pilot project in early 2018, a new dietitian call centre has opened in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition called *Eat Well Saskatchewan*, supported by federal funding. "The College was a natural choice to become the home for the call centre," said Dr. Carol Henry, Assistant Dean of Nutrition. "It complements the similar services we're providing in the pharmacy area, in an environment in which evidence-based nutritional information can be trusted."

The Centre provides free nutrition information to the public and health-care professionals. One key goal carried over from the pilot project is to fill the gap for rural, remote, and isolated communities, as many of them lack access to the services of a dietitian. It's not intended to replace an in-person consultation with a registered dietitian or a visit to a family physician, but it will be able to assist people in finding a dietitian for further in-person consultations or other related services, such as a diabetes educator.



Registered dietitian Carrie Lambden was hired in January 2019 as the Centre's Coordinator. A USask nutrition graduate, Carrie worked for nearly 10 years as a community nutritionist for the Saskatoon Tribal Council (STC). During her time with STC, she travelled to Indigenous communities to provide nutrition counselling and professional expertise to individuals and groups. She understands the unique food environments and nutrition needs of Indigenous communities in

Saskatchewan. Carrie has a warm connection to the College of Home Economics as former Dean Margaret Crowle is her Grandmother. Members of the general public and health-care professionals can contact the Centre Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 4 pm by phone at 1-833-966-5541, or via email at <a href="mailto:eatwell@usask.ca">eatwell@usask.ca</a>.

## Dr. Carol Henry, Colleagues and Home Economics Teachers: Pulse Make Perfect Sense

The *Saskatchewan Home Economics Education Award* of \$3,000, was presented to Carol and Nutrition colleagues Drs. Hiwot Haileslassie and Jessica Lieffers. They will be implementing and evaluating an educational campaign project (*Pulse Make Perfect Sense*) to increase awareness and consumption of pulses in high school students. Carol, Hiwot and Jessica will be working with Saskatoon high school home economics teachers in Bedford Road Collegiate, Mount Royal Collegiate and E.D. Feehan. The award is presented yearly to support/enhance family related food, nutrition and consumer education programs offered in Saskatchewan. It is funded mainly through donations via the Canadian Home Economics Foundation, from alumni, ASHE and SHETA.

## **Dr. Susan Whiting Retires**

In October 2019, Susan was celebrated by friends and colleagues at the University Club. She started her academic career at Mount Saint Vincent University and joined the Division of Nutrition and Dietetics in 1988. On retiring, Susan was granted the special honorary title of Distinguished Professor Emeritus of the University of Saskatchewan.



Susan is an authority on vitamin D and calcium supplementation and a leading nutrition expert, her work has led to significant advances in the field. She is one of the original investigators of the *Saskatchewan Pediatric Bone Mineral Accrual Study*, which has followed hundreds of Saskatchewan elementary school children for over 25 years. The study is internationally renowned for its findings on how growth, physical activity and nutrition affect bone development. Susan was recently presented with an

Achievement Award by the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation, in addition to many other awards and recognitions. The photo at left includes Susan and some of her many close colleagues who attended the retirement celebration.

The photo at right is of Joyce (Johnson) Collins, who graduated from the College of Household Science in 1941. Susan and her Stepfather William and family and friends established the Joyce Collins Entrance Bursary in Nutrition and Dietetics in honour of Joyce.

## New Scholarships Honour Drs. Berenbaum and Whiting

On the occasion of their retirements, the College established the Dr. Shawna Berenbaum Scholarship for Excellence in Nutrition and Dietetics and the Dr. Susan Whiting Award for Excellence in Nutrition.

## **Canadian Women Global Health List**

Drs. Carol Henry and Susan Whiting were named to the Canadian Women Global Health List for 2018. The CWIGH List highlights Canadian women leaders, working at home or abroad as practitioners, researchers, educators, policy makers, and/or community advocates, in a range of disciplines and sectors to advance global health.

## **The Doctor of Pharmacy Program**



Dr. Ed Krol, Acting Associate Dean Academic has kindly provided this update. The last class of BSP Pharmacy students will graduate in the spring of 2020. Starting in the spring of 2021, Pharmacy students from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition will graduate with a PharmD (Doctor of Pharmacy). The 4th year practicums for the first PharmD class begin in May 2020 and the Year 4 faculty and staff team, headed by Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk, are working hard to finalize details to make the first placement year a success.

This November, the College administrative offices moved to the second floor of the renovated A-Wing of the Health Sciences building. Ed extends an invitation for all to come and visit our new space if you get the chance!

## **Pharmacy and Nutrition Graduate Studies**

The College currently has 49 students in the graduate program. Seventeen are taking a Master's or PhD in Nutrition and 32 in Pharmacy. Our College produces highly trained individuals who graduate with skills to undertake research and/or provide leadership in their respective disciplines. Our current graduate student council has seven representatives: Se'era Anstruther, Nutrition Co-president; Mujtaba Badr, Pharmacy Co-president; Riley Devine, Past president; Jay Kim, Secretary; Sukanya Pati, Treasurer; Janine Rover de Mello, Student Affairs; and Amanda Vanzan, Social Media. Thank you to Dr. David Blackburn, Acting Associate Dean Research and Graduate Affairs and



Research Chair in Patient Adherence to Drug Therapy (pictured), for the update.

## D. In Memoriam

It is with sadness that we list those alumni who have passed away since the last Reconnecting issue. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If the name of your friend/colleague has been omitted, or listed incorrectly, please let us know, and accept our apologies. In addition, we include below stories that we have received about those Home Economics grads who have recently passed away.

Florence E (Betty) (Bell) (Ball) (BHSC '46)
Catherine I (MacPherson) Brent (BHSC '41)
Margaret A (MacNaughton) Charters (BHSC '46)
Betty J (Ivison) Criswick (BHSC '49)
Geraldine S (Jeri) Johnson (BSHEC '60)
Muriel I (Morrison) McFaull (HEC '44)
Patricia O (Pat) Pazdry (BSHEC '54)
Audrey H (McEwen) Stephens (BHSC '49)
Janet E (Sjolie) Szafron (BSHEC '68)
Margaret C (Dix) Towill (BHSC '48)
Olga P (Olivia) (Budzinski) Tumak (BSHEC '58)
Joan Weisbeck (BSHEC '69)



## Wendy (McCandless) Levee, Class of 1966

Bernice Rempel (BSHEc 1967) kindly sent us news of the peaceful passing of her good friend and classmate, Wendy Levee. Bernice notes that Wendy was a very special person, who shared her knowledge, compassion and sense of humour with everyone along the way and advocated for all who needed support. She started her career as a Home Ec teacher and followed by serving as Principal of a school for students with disabilities in St. Paul, Alberta. She went on to become a palliative care nurse for over 20 years in Edmonton. One of her great projects involved an exchange program for nurses in South Africa. She supported the nurses there, and sponsored time for them in



Canada to gather knowledge to help in their home country. Bernice goes on to say that she was lovingly cared for by friends and co-workers until her passing and was able to reconnect with her family and friends.

## Janet Szafron (Sjolie), Class of 1968

Janet passed away in September 2019. She taught Home Economics in Hanley and was then the bookkeeper/clerk in the Pharmacy in Kelvington which she and her husband owned. She loved her garden, snowmobiling and baking. Janet was known for making massive amounts of popcorn balls to hand out to the young, mid-aged and older Hallowe'en callers. Jane was the beloved sister of Millie Reynolds, our *Reconnecting* Co-editor.



#### Cathy Brent (Macpherson), Class of 1941



Cathy died peacefully, with family by her side in August 2019 at 100 years of age. She earned the Bachelor of Household Science Degree in 1941 and did Post Graduate work in Dietetics at the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children 1941-42. She worked briefly in Toronto and then moved to Saskatoon City Hospital as Dietitian from 1944-46. She married George in 1946, raised two children and was very active in the community. This included being a charter member of the Consumers Association of Canada and serving as local and provincial president. She was noted for being a friend to everyone she met and a truly genuine person.

#### Elaine Lee, Class of 1975

Elaine passed away in November 2019 in Vancouver. She obtained a Bachelor of Education and Home Economics, and taught high school for many years, mostly at Mount Royal Collegiate in Saskatoon. Elaine then attend Law School at the U of S and finished as the gold medalist in her graduating class. After a short time in private practice, she joined the Department of Justice as a lawyer dealing with the adjudication of many of the most important Aboriginal Land Claims across the country. She was known for her ability to develop creative legal arguments and her effectiveness as an advocate. She is survived by her husband Stephen and son Kevin.



## Randi Nilson (Farden), Class of 1947



Randi passed away in Regina in December 2019. She is survived by her husband of 69 years, Pastor Tom Nilson, three children, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Randi was born in 1926. She received her BSHEc in 1947 and went to Hamilton General Hospital in Ontario for her dietetic internship. Her first job as a dietitian was at the Saskatoon Tuberculosis Sanatorium. Randi and Tom travelled the world, contributing to ministry work, and especially enjoying visiting with family in Norway. Randi focussed her dietetics career on psychiatric care in many communities across Canada and

beyond. We remember Randi and her close classmate Borgny Sylte Lokken attending the Home Economics All-Years Reunion a few years ago. It was very nice to learn from Borgny's son James, that he married Randi and Tom's daughter Joanne. Randi has been honored through the Nilson-Farden Scholarship Fund at the University of Regina.

## Thank You!

Co-editors Merry and Millie extend sincere thanks to all the Home Economics grads and friends who contributed to *Reconnecting*. We thank the members of the Home Economics Engagement Committee, and members of the College, noted earlier, for all their good work and support for Home Economics.

# **Fundraising: Please Consider Supporting Ongoing Home Economics Legacy**

Your generous gifts can help ensure that Home Economics continues to be celebrated at the University of Saskatchewan. We are creating a **Home Economics legacy fund**. Please contact Andy Collin to donate and obtain a charitable receipt for income tax purposes.

# Where are you now? What are you doing? Please let us know!

We look forward to hearing about important events in your life and receiving your feedback on the *Reconnecting* newsletter. Please send by email, fax or mail to:



Andy Collin, Development Officer College of Pharmacy and Nutrition 2A20.01 Health Sciences 107 Wiggins Road University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E5 Phone: 306-966-5823

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