



# AMEN NEWS

## Connections

### Still the Lazy Days Of Summer

BETSY NOONEN

As soon as we get used to summer, it always seems to start to slip away! Good thing we still have a solid month or so till Labor Day even if there are rumblings of school starting, even if we may not be sending kids back to college, high school or the basement with their laptop! Ah, the new normal.

We are working on our AMEN calendar for the year so please stay tuned, we will hold off scheduling an in-person gathering until we are certain that COVID 19 community spread is contained and we know how to gather safely. For now that's a moving target. But we will keep our safety at the forefront. And as always, we are longing to keep connections strong. We will be creative!

Let us know if you didn't receive the letter and bookmark (sent via US Mail on Aug 5) and we will forward one to you. Please be sure to go to our website and rejoin [AMEN](#) as soon as you are able. Join [HERE!](#)

Take care and be safe, stay healthy and as always! Go Bells!

Betsy Noonan, Chair, AMEN 2020-21

AUGUST EVENTS	DATE	CONTACT
AMEN GOLF GROUP PRUNERIDGE GOLF COURSE	10:00 AM WEDS. AUGUST 5TH	CATHERINE CHRISTOFFERSON
WINE WEDNESDAY	5:00 PM WEDS. AUGUST 12TH	CATHERINE CHRISTOFFERSON AND KATHY ARMISTEAD
AMEN BOARD MEETING ZOOM MEETING	5:00 PM WEDS. AUGUST 26TH	BETSY NOONEN

# Connections

## Fall 2020 - Keeping Colleges COVID Safe

SUSAN MUNNE

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on higher education colleges and universities. Starting in March 2020, students were told to either head home or not return and attend classes remotely with virtual graduations. However, given the importance of student tuition dollars to the operating budget of most colleges and universities, and to avoid students considering attending community college or taking a gap year - the majority are planning for students to return in the fall with new rules in place to ensure the safety of students and staff. The following are a few “re-opening” examples:

### **Phase 1: Student-Athletes**

Student-Athletes, Coaches and Staff return with re-population protocols in place that include self-isolating and frequent testing. Athletic programs are taking all necessary steps to prepare and be diligent with the plans that are within their control. To-date no official communication has come out with regard to whether fall sports will have fans in attendance.

### **Phase 2: Fall Semester / Quarter**

Many colleges and universities are planning for in-person and on-campus learning, working, research and living starting in the fall to the extent that it is safe and responsible to do so, thus, are working in active partnership with public health partners and state government to understand current realities and adapt operations accordingly so to reduce the speed and safeguard the campus' and communities. However, current plans include some new realities:

- Increased testing and contact tracing available
- Commitment deadline extended for undergraduate students admitted for fall 2020
- Hybrid Approach to Learning, Living and Working (see University of Oregon example below)
  - Classes with fewer than 50 people will be in-person and face-to-face
  - Remote classes will curriculum, interactivity, digital platform and student experience enhanced
  - Residence halls will remain open, with reduced density based on guidance from the state.
  - Dining halls will be open for students but with limited seating
  - Advising will be offered remotely




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# Bell News!

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*Bellarmino's Speech and Debate Team* wrapped up its 2019-2020 season with a very strong showing as they competed virtually at the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Tournament held during the week of June 14-20.

The Bellarmine team received the School of Outstanding Distinction, an honor that is only awarded to the top 10 schools in the country and based on the total sweepstakes points at the National Tournament. "Since the NSDA does not rank the schools 1-10, this award is the highest award any school can receive in a given year," noted Langerman. "We're super proud of the Bells for reaching this milestone for another year in a row."

## *Best of luck to Coach Mike Rodriguez*

Coach Mike Rodriguez '93 spent 19 years in various roles within the Bellarmine community. Beginning in 1989 as a student, Rodriguez returned to Bellarmine as a member of the Admissions Department and coaching in both the basketball and baseball programs. Rodriguez landed in baseball as the Head of the Baseball program when his coach and mentor, Gary Cunningham, retired. As a vital member of the Bellarmine community for parts of 5 decades, Coach Rodriguez is now making a move to Southern California. A family decision, he will be stepping away after 12 years as the varsity baseball head coach.

The Bellarmine baseball program, which will begin a search for a new head varsity baseball coach in the near future, is forever thankful for the contributions of Coach Rodriguez as the team always carried itself in ways that made the community proud. The hope is that this new chapter in life brings as much joy to Coach Rod, his wife Gina, daughter Sofia (7), and son Michael (4), as he has brought to his former players. Coach Mike Rodriguez leaves a legacy as a winner both on and off the field.

Go Bells!

## **July 25 | Fr. Joseph Costa '41 Alumni & Friends Bocce Tournament**

*POSTPONED (new date TBD)*

## **Aug. 22nd | Bellarmine Hall of Fame Ceremony**

*POSTPONED until 2021*

## **Sept. 25th | Alumni Football Tailgate**

*CANCELLED*

## **Oct. 10th | Grand Reunion for the Classes of 1975, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, '05 and '10**

*DETAILS TO COME*

## **Oct. 12th | Bellarmine Golf Classic**

*DETAILS TO COME*

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## *Summer Updates from AMEN Social Circles*

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### AMEN Golf Group

CATHERINE CHRISTOFFERSON

The AMEN golf members have been socially distancing but also enjoyed playing some golf at Blackberry Golf Course, Sunken Garden Golf Course and Pruneridge Golf Course. The next outing will be Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at Pruneridge Golf Course. 10:00 AM. If you would like to join, please email [Catherine.Christofferson](mailto:Catherine.Christofferson).

*If it goes right, it's a slice. If it goes left, it's a hook. If it goes straight, it's a miracle.*  
-Anonymous



*Keep your sense of humor. There's enough stress in the rest of your life not to let bad shots ruin a good game you're supposed to enjoy.*

*Amy Alcott*



## Shelter Shopping

SANDY GRUWELL AND JULIE HUGHES

Let your fingers do the shopping! Who says shelter-in-place needs to be boring? Spice up your next picnic with a new wine (beverage) caddy and wine glasses. Keep you school spirit shining!

The wine caddy (\$35) holds two bottles of wine and has a front pocket to keep the opener handy. The wine glasses are glass, stemless and sturdy! They come in packages of 4 for \$50.

Orders can be placed directly through the AMEN website and will be delivered to your front door.

<https://www.bcp.org/amen/fundraising>



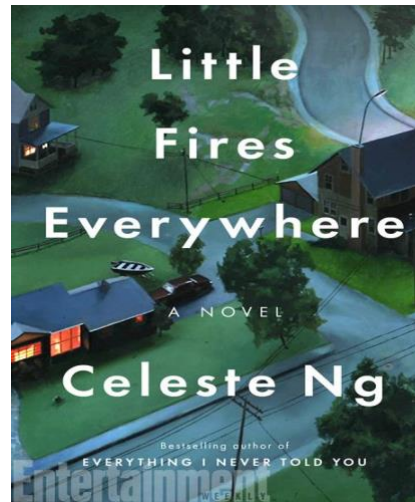
If you have any questions please email [Sandy Gruwell and Julie Hughes](#)- Fundraising Chairs

## The Bell Babe Books Group

### Little Fires Everywhere

HEIDI BURKE

The Bell Babes Book Social Circle loved reading “Little Fires Everywhere” by Celeste Ng. So many story lines to follow in this novel can be a bit distracting but overall it was an engrossing read. A couple members also watched the miniseries on Hulu starring Reese Witherspoon and Kerry Washington giving it a “thumbs up”!



*A little humor....be safe everyone!*

