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## CHECK OUT OUR VIDEO!

Check out our website for our latest video. We would really appreciate it if you could share your comments, too! You can find the video at <http://www.shannonlawgroup.com>



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## THANK YOU TO THE GOOD PEOPLE OF ST. JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL



**"If we pray, we will believe; If we believe, we will love; If we love, we will serve."**

-St. Teresa of Calcutta

Dear St. Joan of Arc teachers and staff,

Since 1999, we have entrusted you with our most precious gifts: our children. With Nora graduating this year, a proper public thank-you is long overdue. We want to thank you for providing Emma, Clare, Kate, Will, and now Nora with the best grade-school education we can imagine. Here's why we think so:

### 1. You taught our kids to pray.

You taught our kids from the start that they are uniquely created by God and *never* alone in this world. You taught them that there is always a loving God watching over them, and that, in fact, God is their biggest fan. When there are inevitable tough times, God is with them to share their hardship. As one St. Joan of Arc teacher instructed our kids, "Don't tell God how big your problem is; tell your problem how big our God is." When there are great triumphs, you taught our kids to be grateful to God, the one who gave them the tools to succeed in life. For teaching our kids to pray and be grateful, we thank you.

### 2. You taught our kids to believe.

Our faith was entrusted to the hands of imperfect people. However, our God is a living God who we encounter daily, especially whenever we read the Word of God and attend Mass together. You prepared our kids for the sacraments, which provide them with the grace to make good decisions in their futures. You taught our kids that they should base their lives on faith, hope, charity, and reason. You taught our kids that faith and science have a symbiotic relationship and can never be in

conflict. For providing our kids with a rigorous education and teaching our kids to believe, we thank you.

### 3. You taught our kids to love.

You are all highly educated. Each of you made a deliberate, informed, and sacrificial choice to teach at a Catholic school at a financial cost to your families. By your witness, you have taught our kids this message: God first, others second, me last. Through your witness, you taught our kids to love every day. For implanting love in the hearts of our children, we thank you.

### 4. You taught our kids to serve.

You taught our kids to pray, believe, and love. When a student has unconditional love in their heart, it is inevitable that they share this love and serve others. After nine years of daily witness from kindergarten to eighth grade on how to pray, love, and serve others, how can all of our kids not be changed forever? For teaching our kids the powerful vocation and spirit to serve others, we thank you.

Each day, the positive ripple effect of your vocation profoundly affects our community. When just one St. Joan of Arc student learns to pray, believe, love, and serve, the mission of St. Joan of Arc School has been accomplished.

By the generous gift of your vocation, you have made a lasting and positive difference in the lives of our kids and their classmates. Please know that we are deeply grateful for your vocation and dedication to our children and our community. You and the St. Joan of Arc community will be in our prayers as you continue your great work.

*-Joe and Michelle Shannon*



If your house was built before 1980, there is a high chance that several places in your home contain asbestos.

Before 1980, most building supplies for home construction contained asbestos, a naturally occurring fibrous silicate material that was used for its durability and heat-resistant properties for most of the 20th century.

However, in the 20th century, researchers discovered that asbestos exposure causes cancer and other illnesses, such as mesothelioma and asbestosis. From 1973 to 1978, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) banned certain products containing asbestos. Here are a few of the banned items:

- Asbestos pipe and block insulation
- Asbestos-containing artificial fireplace embers and wall-patching compounds
- All spray-applied surfacing, asbestos-containing material

Homes built between 1940 and 1980 should not be renovated without first checking for materials containing asbestos. Once deteriorated or disturbed, asbestos fibers become an instant threat to your family's health.

If inhaled, these microscopic fibers latch onto the pleura in your lungs, where they can cause inflammation and scarring.

This exposure can damage your cells over time and possibly result in pleural mesothelioma. If swallowed, asbestos fibers can reach the abdominal lining, where they can potentially cause peritoneal mesothelioma.

If you own an older house, you should have it professionally inspected so you know where any asbestos-containing areas are located. Common asbestos-containing materials found in older homes may include attic insulation, corrugated cement roofing, vinyl floor tiles, window glazing and caulking, and heating-duct insulation, among others.

If your home was built between 1940 and 1980, here are five steps you can take right now to reduce your risk for asbestos exposure:

1. Contact a qualified asbestos professional in your area.
2. Avoid working around, repairing, or renovating any areas that may contain asbestos.
3. Avoid doing anything in the attic.
4. Avoid sweeping or vacuuming around areas that may contain asbestos.
5. Avoid scraping, sawing, or sanding any areas that may contain asbestos — and never drill any holes in the walls.

## PETITIONING IS NOW EASIER FOR VACCINE INJURY VICTIMS

Over 30 years ago, the U.S. federal government created the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP) for people who have been injured by vaccines. This no-fault program is funded by the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund. The fund collects an excise tax of 75 cents on every covered vaccine that is purchased.

One downside to the program for injured people is the program's strict deadlines for filing a petition, also known as the statute of limitations.

Typically, if you have experienced a vaccine injury, you have three years to file a petition with the VICP. However, the clock starts ticking with the first sign of symptoms — not when you first discover that a vaccine caused your injury. For vaccine injuries resulting in death, you have two years to file with the VICP for your loved one.

Although the VICP has strict filing deadlines, a recent exception was made due to a change to the Vaccine Injury Table. The Vaccine Injury Table lists conditions and injuries associated with vaccines covered under the VICP.

On February 21, 2017, the table was officially changed to include two new injuries. A condition known as Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (SIRVA) was added for all covered vaccines. SIRVA is an injury that happens when the injection punctures shoulder tendons, ligaments, and/or the bursa, resulting in extreme and long-lasting pain.



For seasonal influenza vaccines, Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) was added as an injury. GBS is a disorder that happens when someone's immune system damages their own nerve cells, resulting in muscle weakness and sometimes paralysis.

If either of these changes make an ineligible person eligible to receive compensation under the VICP, they have an extra two years to file from the date of the change. However, the exception only applies for injuries dating back eight years before the change.

If you or someone you love ever experiences a vaccine injury, please know that your friends at Shannon Law Group, P.C., are here to help you. We're available any time at 312-578-9501.

## A TRIBUTE TO MY GREAT-GRANDFATHER



LaVerne Merriman

As we remember D-Day in June, I wanted to share the story of my great-grandfather, LaVerne "Tuffy" Merriman. LaVerne was born on July 22, 1925 in Morocco, Indiana. In 1942, after Pearl Harbor was bombed, LaVerne enlisted in the Navy at the age of 17 to join his two brothers who had been drafted. Over the next three years, LaVerne served in the African, European, and Pacific theaters of war — and also participated in the storming of Normandy's beaches on D-Day.

74 years ago, at 6:30 a.m. on June 6, 1944, 18-year-old LaVerne boarded a landing craft with 35 other men. His boat was one of hundreds heading toward Normandy as part of the first wave of the invasion of France. He manned the machine guns as they got closer, shooting at anything that moved. LaVerne witnessed soldiers jumping into 10 feet of water with 100-pound backpacks strapped to them, pulling them under the waves.

After they dispatched their troops, his landing craft sped back to ferry more troops across the English Channel. When he returned as part of the fifth wave, LaVerne witnessed a terrifying scene on the beach: "We had [dead and wounded] guys all over.

The water was red with blood. It was hell. We had orders in the fifth wave to pick up the wounded. We got who we could and took them to the hospital ships." The following night, there was an air raid that sent shrapnel into LaVerne's foot, for which he later earned a Purple Heart.

However, the injury he suffered on D-Day did not earn LaVerne a ticket home. After D-Day, LaVerne was sent to the Pacific, where he fought in the Battle of Okinawa on April 1, 1945. His ship — the USS Ancon — arrived at Tokyo Bay, where he and his crew watched Japan's surrender through binoculars.

While on the USS Ancon, LaVerne met King George VI of the United Kingdom, Field Marshal Montgomery, and Gen. George Patton, among others. When he was dispatched and sent home, LaVerne rarely spoke about his service in World War II. Most of this information was taken from an interview he did with a local newspaper a few years before he passed in 2012.

I wish I could have interviewed him myself, but this serves as my tribute to him and all of our veterans who possessed the courage to leave home and fight on foreign soil to protect our country. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the freedom you gave us all with your courage.

*-Brittany Peterson*



### FATHER'S DAY CHILI LIME CHICKEN WINGS

This Father's Day, spice up your wings with this zesty recipe that's sure to please the whole family.

#### Ingredients

- 4 pounds chicken wings
- 1 stick unsalted butter, softened
- 1 1/4 tablespoons Thai red curry paste
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1 lime, halved
- Extra-virgin olive oil
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Chopped cilantro for garnish

#### Directions

1. Heat oven to 425 F.
2. Rinse wings under cold water and pat dry. Season liberally with salt and pepper, and drizzle with olive oil. Roast on a baking sheet for 25 minutes or until skin becomes crisp and brown.
3. Blend butter, red curry paste, honey, and soy sauce in a large mixing bowl.
4. Toss wings in butter mixture. Squeeze lime juice on top, transfer to serving plate, and garnish with cilantro.

inspired by foodnetwork.com

## JUNE 2018 DATES OF CONSEQUENCE

- June 6** D-Day Remembrance
- June 12** VIP Bar Conference in Sarasota, FL
- June 13** Feast of Saint Anthony of Padua
- June 21** Summer Begins
- June 22** Feast of Saint Thomas More and Saint John Fisher

