

Woman completes college where she was abandoned

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO - More than 30 years after she was abandoned as a newborn in a dorm at San Francisco State University, Jillian Sobol has graduated from the school where she began her life.

Sobol, 31, graduated with a bachelor's degree on Friday, the San Francisco Chronicle reported. She was left by a 19-year-old sophomore, who had concealed her pregnancy, in a box in the dorm laundry room on Nov. 5, 1984.

"I believe it to be a story of hope, joy, optimism, family and San Francisco State University," said Sobol, who is eyeing a future organizing conferences, maybe for tech companies, for San Francisco's Moscone Center or the city's entertainment commission.

After the mother left the baby in the box, the newborn was discovered by a student putting his clothes in the dryer.

A baby! He turned, walked into the washing-machine room next door, and asked the only student there: "Did you know there's a baby in a box in here?" the newspaper reports he said at the time.

Students shot into action. As luck would have it, Esther Wannemach-



Jillian Sobol, 31, celebrates Friday during her college graduation ceremony, more than 30 years after being abandoned as a newborn in a dorm at San Francisco State University.

er, a studious, 21-year-old nursing student taking a course in newborn care, was in the washing area.

She swept her finger through the baby's mouth to make sure her airway was clear. She then unfurled the dirty towels, all the while growing concerned for the baby's bluish color.

"Go get help!" she ordered fellow student Patrick Coughlan. "Call 911!" She picked up the baby and cuddled her to warm her.

Years later, Sobol tracked down the woman who likely saved her life.

"I really don't believe in luck," said the former student, now Esther Raiger, 53. "This would have to be divine intervention."

The baby was later adopted by Sam and Helene Sobol, who had adopted a son three years earlier and were on the list for a girl.

Their new daughter proved outgoing and especially determined.

"She would crawl, going after things, ferocious on her hands and knees," Sam-Sobol said.

But despite her university birth, the idea of graduating from college

felt beyond Sobol's abilities for much of her life.

June E. Brummett, 90

June E. Brummett, 90, of Lafayette died Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at St. Anthony Health Care. She was born June 7, 1925, in Brookston, to the late Leroy Wright and Edna Slayton Wright Douglas. On November 21, 1945 she married Wilson Brummett and he preceded her in death on May 3, 2002. June was a homemaker and had also worked at Neuwelt's Fabric Store and Bookworld. She was a member of First Christian Church. Surviving is her son Robert S. Brummett of Monticello, daughter-in-law Lisa Brummett of Lafayette, grandson Sterling Brummett of Lafayette. Also surviving is her special son Michael C. Farrell of Panama City Beach, Fla, special niece Ruby Gwinn of Linden and special friend Louise McDole of Lafayette. June was preceded in death by 3 brothers.

Visitation will be from 12:30 pm until the time of the service at 1:30 pm on Monday at Soller-Baker Lafayette Chapel, 400 Twyckenham Blvd., Rev. Greg Eberhard officiating. Interment will be at Tippecanoe Memory Gardens. Those wishing may contribute to Lafayette Catholic Schools Tuition Assistance in June's memory. You may sign the guest book and leave memories at www.soller-baker.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Virginia C. Wehrle, 79, of Lafayette, died Thursday, June 2, 2016. Soller-Baker Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Everet Penn, 99, of West Lafayette, died Thursday, June 2, 2016. Arrangements are pending with Wheeler Family Funeral Home-Baker Chapel, Flora.

Robert W. Kingery, 87, of Flora, died Tuesday, May 31, 2016. Arrangements are pending with Wheeler Family Funeral Home-Baker Chapel, Flora.

Virginia Brower-Smith, 97, of Flora, died Thursday, June 2, 2016. Arrangements are pending with Wheeler Family Funeral Home-Baker Chapel, Flora.

OBITUARIES

Mary L. Goodwin, 90

Mary L. Goodwin, 90, passed away on Tuesday, May 31, 2016. She was born to the late Leonard and Ethel (Foust) Howe on October 8, 1925 in Medaryville, IN.



Mary graduated valedictorian of her class from Medaryville High School in 1943. She married her late husband, Marion A. Goodwin on November 10, 1946 in Medaryville, Indiana. She was a homemaker, mother and constant support to her husband. Together they owned an insurance agency, M.A. Goodwin & Co., Inc..

Mary was a life-long member of the Christian Church. She enjoyed gardening, embroidering, and knitting, but most of

ing five children.

Mary is survived by her children: Craig (Sherry) Goodwin, Marla (Pat) Redding, Lytta (Kenneth-deceased) Turner, Ella Goodwin, and Mary K. Assad. Four grandchildren also survive her: Craig (Kirsten) Anderson, Paul Turner, Elizabeth Turner, and Anton Redding.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, one brother, and four sisters. She was an excellent matriarch to an extended family that included 24 nieces and nephews and numerous great and great-great nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at 2PM at the First Christian Church, 329 N. 6th St., Lafayette, IN, officiated by Rev. Greg Eberhard, with family visitation following. Memorial contributions may be made to

"Puberty was tough," said the young woman. "I was definitely different from my parents. They were more reserved. Professionals. I was more rambunctious."

She had dyslexia, attention deficit disorder and learning disabilities.

But she persevered,

just as she did in the first hours of life. She eventually got in touch with her biological parents, and her biological father attended her graduation lunch recently. And she earned her diploma. Now she plans to put it to work in San Francisco, the city that gave her a start.

Christian Thomas Burns, 17

Christian Thomas Burns lived a full, successful and loving life for 17 years.

Christian, of West Lafayette, IN, died on Tuesday, May 31, 2016 from injuries sustained as a passenger in an automobile accident.

He was born October 15, 1998, in Lafayette, to Eric H. and Marti (Hatchett) Burns of West Lafayette. An outstanding student and athlete, Christian looked forward to his senior year on the West Lafayette High School football team where he played running back. He was also set to compete with his teammates in the Indiana State Track Finals. He was a proud graduate of the Culver Summer Naval School in Company One where he excelled in leadership and athletics.

He was a member of St. Thomas Aquinas Center where he was Baptized, received First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation.

He will be remembered for creating random hilarity among his friends, taking those in-need under his wing, and demonstrating audacious strength

Alvina (Vi) Christine Doerr, 93

Alvina (Vi) Christine Doerr, 93, formerly of Bellevue, Washington, died Tuesday morning, May 31,

at Bickford Memory Care in Lafayette, Indiana. The daughter of Herman and Bertha

Lorenz, she was born July 5, 1922, and raised in Minot, North Dakota, with two younger siblings. After completing high school, she attended one year at Valparaiso University, pursuing music studies as part of her lifelong love of music and singing.

During World War II, she met Albert Robert (Bob) Doerr in San Francisco while he was serving in the Navy and she was participating in a church singing group at a church convention. They were married July 20, 1946, and moved to Chicago where she worked for Popular Mechanics magazine. In 1956 her husband accepted a position at Boeing and they moved to Seattle where they spent the rest of their married life. During an economic downturn in the early 1960s, Alvina re-entered the workforce, and within a few years accepted a bookkeeping position with Farmers New World Life Insurance Company.

Her outgoing personality, cheerful countenance and love of conversing with both friends and strangers endeared her to virtually everyone she met. Com-

and toughness. He had a gift with young children in showing both love and firmness. His family - and each of his friends here and abroad - hold the pieces that made up Christian Thomas Burns, a mosaic of a life well-lived.

Surviving along with his parents are his brothers, Alexander H. Burns of West Lafayette and Stewart M. Burns of Indianapolis; his sister, Sarah M. Burns of Chicago and his grandmothers, Mary Ann Burns of West Lafayette and Mauna M. Hatchett of Indianapolis.

Christian was preceded in death by his grandfathers, John Thomas Burns MD and Thomas Louis Hatchett.

Visitation will be from 9:00 am until the time of the Funeral Mass at 1:00 pm on Monday June 6, 2016 at St Thomas Aquinas Center with Fr. Patrick Baikauskas officiating. In lieu of flowers, those wishing may contribute in Christian's name to the West Lafayette Schools Education Foundation at 1130 N. Salisbury St., West Lafayette, IN 47906 or at www.wlsec.org

You may sign the guest book and leave memories at www.soller-baker.com

Aerial survey documents ocean debris around Hawaii

Caleb Jones
Associated Press

HONOLULU - A study of the eight main Hawaiian Islands shows that ocean debris regularly accumulates around the archipelago, and that most of it is not linked to the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, state officials said Tuesday.

The aerial survey shows that much of the debris that accumulates on the shores of Hawaii is from items discarded carelessly across the Pacific, officials with the state Department of Land and Natural Resources said in a statement. Ocean currents can bring trash from as far as the U.S. mainland and Asia to the shores of Hawaii.

"In order to characterize the potential ecological consequences of tsunami and other debris, it's important to quantify it," said Kirsten Moy, the state's marine debris coordinator. "Understanding the types, sizes and locations of debris accumulating on Hawaiian coastlines is crucial in developing plans to streamline removal and mitigate negative impacts."

The debris, mostly plastics but also wood, household goods, fishing gear and other items, accumulates in hot spots around the islands, mostly on the north and east shores where ocean currents

sizes and types of trash, and where it wound up, to determine what amount was produced by the 2011 tsunami and earthquake in Japan and what was not.

"This survey found a very limited amount of debris associated with the Japan tsunami," said Suzanne Case, chairwoman of the Department of Land & Natural Resources. "Most of what was mapped is common, everyday items that someone haphazardly tossed onto the ground or directly into the water."

The island of Niihau had the most debris in the state with nearly 8,000 pieces of debris counted. Oahu, the state's most populated island, had the least amount of debris with just under 1,000 pieces, most of which was found on the island's northeastern tip.

The survey was paid for by the Ministry of Environment of Japan using the Japan Tsunami Gift Fund and commissioned by the Department of Land & Natural Resources and North Pacific Marine Science Organization.

The 2011 magnitude-9.0 earthquake off the coast of northern Japan unleashed a massive tsunami. More than 19,000 people were killed, and power to a nuclear plant was cut off, triggering multiple meltdowns in the world's second-worst nuclear disaster.