



## *Look Who's Happening*

Alumni of the Billings Catholic School are doing extraordinary work around the nation and around the world. Each month we will recognize the amazing individuals who are products of our schools and tell their stories.



### **Leslie Budewitz, Class of 1977**

#### ***Author of Award Winning Murder/Crime Novels***

*Assault and Pepper*, *Death Al Dente*, and *Butter Off Dead* are some of the witty titles of Billings Catholic Central High School alumni Leslie Budewitz's novels. Leslie has the honor of being the first author to win the Agatha award for both her work in fiction, *Death Al Dente* and nonfiction, *Books, Crooks & Counselors: How to Write Accurately About Criminal Law and Courtroom Procedure*. Her novels are clever, intriguing and full of fun, but don't let the whimsical titles fool you. Her work

clearly focuses on social justice and truth. The protagonists of her novels feel a deep sense of duty to their community.

While interviewing Leslie, she talks about how her heroines cannot turn a blind eye to social injustice. As she talks, it is evident; she too has a deep respect for what it truly means to be tied to a community. A graduate of BCCHS and Notre Dame Law School, Leslie spent most of her years as a student in Catholic education. She noted how the Catholic community in Billings provided a support network to her while growing up, and has great memories of the school community at St. Pius. She noted it was "a community within a community." She shared the Catholic education she received "taught [her] social justice." She feels her Catholic Education still resonates as those values permeate her writing.

When asked how she transitioned from lawyer to author, she explained she has been writing since she was little, but never knew any authors, and did not have a clear path of how to write for a living. After becoming a lawyer and working in Seattle for some time, she began to pursue her dreams of becoming a published author. She took a measured assessment of the novels getting published and chose a genre she felt would have a good chance of getting picked up.

"The Cozy," or so this genre is called is a popular kind of novel - fun, easy to pick up - with a strong female lead. And her efforts paid-off, she currently has numerous books in print.

Leslie lives in Bigfork, MT with her husband and continues to work as a lawyer when she is not writing. She has four fantastic murder mystery books in print, awards under her belt, but she isn't resting on her laurels. Her next book, set to unveil July 2015, *Butter Off Dead*, continues her Food Lovers' Village series.

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Leslie's accomplishment as an author is outstanding. It is not easy getting a novel published. Writerstype.com cites, "fewer than one percent of submitted works are accepted for publication." Which makes her accolades even more meaningful. I just downloaded *Assault and Pepper* on my Nook - and cannot wait to dive in. Her novels can be purchased at any major outlet - they are also available for download on an e-reader. For more information on Leslie's work visit her website [www.LeslieBudewitz.com](http://www.LeslieBudewitz.com)

[-Keziah Efta, Alumni Relations / Communications Coordinator](#)  
[Billings Catholic Schools Foundation](#)

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## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

7.25.15

### **Full Moon Open**

Join us at the Foundation's Full Moon Open! It is going to be an awesome evening of golf benefiting the Billings Catholic Schools Foundation!

**For more information or to register contact [Nikki Burke](#).**

8.6.15

### **BCS Night of Baseball**

Don't miss out on an evening of baseball at Dehler Park! Call or email now to get your FREE tickets - only 50 complimentary tickets available.

**For more information or to register contact [Keziah Efta](#).**

8.12.15

### **Ram Scramble**

Get in on the fun! Register now for the Billing Catholic Schools Annual golf scramble!

**For more information or to register contact [Lynn Caravau](#).**

## REUNION INFORMATION

For more information on your summer reunion, visit our [website](#). If you have not received an invite, it could be we do not have your current address. To update your information click [here](#).

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