



Griffin Network Today

Volume 10: Issue 2 Saint Joseph/Monsignor Donovan High School Spring 2010

St. Joseph/Monsignor Donovan High School



The Tradition Continues

Griffin Network Today

Saint Joseph/Monsignor Donovan High School Toms River, NJ 08753 732-349-8801 Fax:732-349-8956

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Congratulations!

Dr. Edward Gere has been named to the Board of Directors of Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity.

Senior **Kimberly Julien**, a finalist in the National Achievement Scholarship Program® has been selected as the winner of a National Achievement \$2500 Scholarship.

State Champions

Girls Indoor Relay

New Jersey Catholic Track Conference Relay Champions

Girls Varsity Track and Field Team

B-South Champs

Girls Indoor Track, Girls Swimming,
Boys Basketball, Boys and Girls Bowling

Ocean County Champions

Consumer Bowl Team

Ocean County and Southern Regional Champs

Law Team

About the cover: Children of alumni who are currently students at Monsignor Donovan High School get together on the bleachers for a group photo.

The Griffin Network Today



A newsletter for parents, alumni,
and friends of
Saint Joseph/
Monsignor Donovan
High School

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From the Office of Institutional Advancement

Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends,

You are all valued members of our family! Your support, vital to our continued success, has a profound impact on the student experience.

The Monsignor Donovan High School Annual Appeal provides the essential “unrestricted” dollars that are directed to the areas of the greatest need. Gifts to the appeal offset expenses that tuition alone does not cover. They enhance our school community through tuition assistance, academic and co-curricular enrichment, technology expansion, facility and campus improvements, and so much more.

We appreciate the great sacrifices our families make so that their children will benefit from the Monsignor Donovan High School experience. We value this dedication to Catholic secondary education.

We ask you to consider becoming part of the philanthropic family of Monsignor Donovan High School by joining the many benefactors that have already given so generously to our important Annual Appeal for 2009/10. *Your* donation will increase the funds that help keep MDHS in the forefront of Catholic education. Please make a contribution that is most comfortable for you.

Your gift will have an immediate impact on our students. On behalf of the entire Monsignor Donovan High School community, I am grateful for your consideration.

Andrea Apruzzese

Director, Office of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations



Yes, I would like to make an impact on the lives of MDHS students.

St. Joseph's Club \$2,500 +
 Griffins \$250 - 499

Partners \$1,000 - 2,499
 Friends \$100 - 249

Benefactors \$500 - 999
 Blue & White \$1 - 99

I am enclosing a check made payable to **Monsignor Donovan High School**.

Please charge my VISA MasterCard Discover Amex Amount\$ _____ Date _____
Account # _____ Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____
Name: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
E-mail address: _____

- **Make a gift via our secure server at www.mondonhs.com. Click on the Donate link on the Development or Alumni Page.**
- **Matching gifts can double or even triple your total gift to MDHS!**

For more information, please call the MDHS Office of Institutional Advancement & Alumni Relations at 732-349-8801, x 2435 or visit: www.mondonhs.com.

Thank you for your generosity!

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Serving the Community for 26 Years

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Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

A Message from Dr. Gere

Dear Graduates, Parents, and Friends of SJ/MDHS:

I'd like to share some good news!

On Saturday, December 5, 2009 Monsignor Donovan High School was honored by the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Trenton, Charity and Justice Alliance with the **Gaudium et Spes Award**. This is the fifth year that the Alliance is presenting the award. Monsignor Donovan High School is the *only* school to ever be recognized with the honor.

Held on the first Saturday of December, the day is set aside to acknowledge ministries of charity and justice and to remember those who serve in those ministries. The award is presented in recognition of the recipient's actions to affect positive social change in their community.

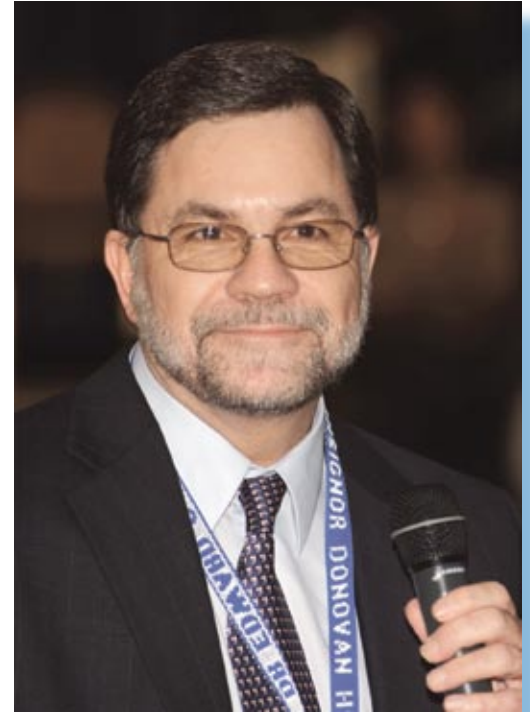
I was on hand along with **Father Patrick McPartland, Mr. Dennis Gallagher**, Religion Department Supervisor and Christian Service Program Coordinator and his predecessor, **Mrs. Suzan Fichtner** to accept the award presented by **The Most Reverend John M. Smith, J.C.D., D.D.**, Bishop of Trenton. Along with us were several students and alumni, all of whom are/were instrumental in MDHS Christian service programs.

Other honorees at the special Mass, held at St. Gregory the Great Church in Hamilton, included Father Anthony Carotenuto, pastor of St. Anthony Parish, Red Bank; Mary Goss, director of the diocesan Office of Catholic Relief Services; Catherine Hegeman, parishioner of St. John Neumann Parish, Mount Laurel and the Mount Carmel Guild, Trenton.

In explaining the Gaudium et Spes celebration, Father Ronald Cioffi, coordinator of the diocesan Social Concerns Ministries, said that its purpose is to highlight "individuals, groups and parish communities that work through the year to implement the values and principles of Catholic Social teaching. The vast pastoral outreach inspired by Catholic Social Teaching was given renewed vigor and prominence by the Second Vatican Council in its landmark Pastoral Constitution 'Gaudium et Spes' (The Church in the Modern World)"

It was an honor to accept an award in recognition of the school's mission to "respect and serve others." Our students are out in the community every day feeding the hungry, clothing the unfortunate, lending a helping hand and mentoring the young.

My sincere gratitude to Mrs. Suzan Fichtner and Mr. Dennis Gallagher for establishing and sustaining one of the finest high school Christian Service programs.



God bless!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward G. Gere".

Edward G. Gere, Ed.D.
Principal

(l-r) Father Patrick McPartland, Sean Milana '10, Mrs. Suzan Fichtner, Mr. Dennis Gallagher, Bishop Smith, Kyle Scheuing '09, Kim Verwey '08, Dr. Gere, and Meagan Brosnan '10

Around the Campus



Senior John Holler had everyone in “stitches” during the spring musical production of “The Pajama Game.”



Senior Meagan Brosnan, along with her parents and Dr. Gere, proudly displays her appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point.



Senior Katie DeTuro signs her NCAA National Letter of Intent to play soccer at Virginia Tech while her parents, Dr. Gere and coach Suzanne Oliver look on.



National Honor Society President Carmella Holl with the “queen” of the NHS Senior Citizen Prom.



Former major league baseball pitcher Mark Leiter (r) with Guidance Counselor Jim Maguire as he prepares to address Veritas students.



Dr. Gere with Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars (front row l-r) Kirby Costello, Maria Moresco, Erica Fitzpatrick (back row l-r) Matthew Mance, Tyler Krenek, Jacob Martin, Zak Belanger and Russell Simms



Seniors Courtney Cox, Julie Peterson and Nick Colucci get ready to entertain at the Student Council's Breakfast with Santa



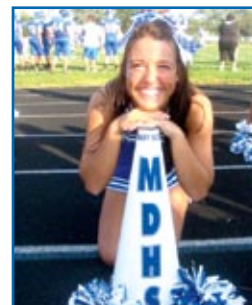
Junior Sean Grennan joins a prestigious group of MDHS alumni athletes. He scored his 1000th point in a boys varsity basketball game against Neptune High School on February 6, 2010.



Pro Bowler Parker Bohn gives instructions to senior Joe Cerami. Bohn was a guest in Mrs. Madeline Kinloch's gym class.



Students assembled in St. Joseph's Church for the Lenten prayer service.



Senior Mary Kate Shalhoub was named Ms. Ocean County 2010 at the Ocean County Cheering Championships held in January. She won the title over all senior cheerleaders in Ocean County entered in the competition.



On a recent episode of “The Catholic Corner” (l-r) senior football players Jake Martin and Kevin Carter along with junior Angelo DiSalvo and Coach Dan Duddy discussed the “Our Virtue” program, a model for the integration of Masculine Spirituality through athletics. Also pictured is the show's moderator Monsignor Walter Nolan.



The Quad in bloom

Faculty Focus

A Returning Graduate is now a Veteran Teacher.

James Courtney '84

Jim Courtney is a member of the first graduating class of Monsignor Donovan High School. Upon graduation, Jim matriculated to Mount Saint Mary's College in Emmitsburg, Maryland to major in Sociology. (In 1999, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from his alma mater in recognition of the impact he makes on his students.)

His immediate plans were not to return to MDHS, but in his words, "Hollywood..... but no one came to discover me." He instead worked for International Insurance Company in New York City and for Moore Business Forms in Washington DC. When he decided that he'd like to teach, he thought the best person with whom to speak was his former high school guidance counselor, Mr. A. It was Mr. A. who inspired "Court" to come back to Monsignor Donovan High School.

As a student at MDHS, Court was involved in Cross Country and the plays. ("Remember, I was going to Hollywood!") As a faculty member, he is the coach of the Surf Team and also a retreat director. He teaches a senior religion elective, "Spirituality and Contemporary Issues," in which the class looks at the media culture and how it shapes views on life. In 1997, he started a tradition of having senior artists paint inspirational murals on his classroom walls.

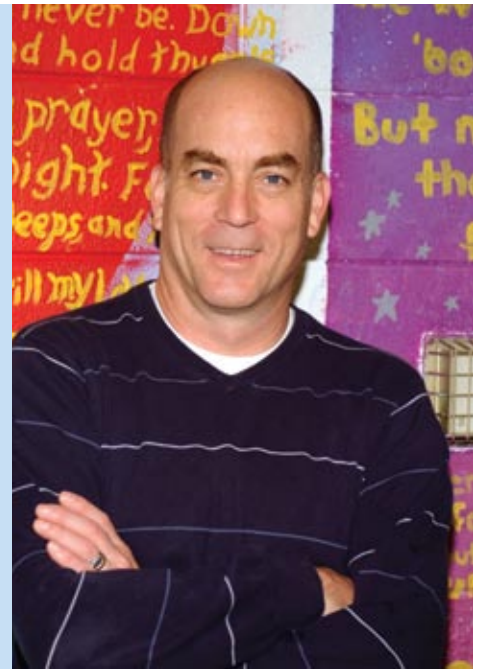
Mr. Courtney joined the MDHS teaching staff in 1990, which makes him a twenty year veteran teacher! When asked his favorite memory as both a student and a staff member he had the same thing to say, "All the amazing people I got/get to encounter, especially the students."

There is an alumni tradition among the Courtney family and friends. His siblings, Lisa '83, Bob '86 and Mike '88 are all SJ/MDHS graduates. Mr. Courtney's wife, Christine (Suskevich) is a 1989 graduate; all of her siblings are also SJ/MDHS grads. Their two sons are in the sixth and fourth grades and in September 2010, their daughter will enter kindergarten, all at St. Joseph's Grade School.

Among his hobbies and interests are live music, brewing homemade beers and collecting interesting wines. Surfing is also a passion. As the Surf Team coach, Court organizes the annual Doug Oland Memorial Surf Contest,

held the weekend after Labor Day. (See Alumni Bulletin Board) Since 1995, the Courtney's have been the owners of the Surf Taco restaurant in Seaside Park. He and his staff are instrumental in the organization of the school's annual Surf Fashion Show held in the spring to benefit Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity.

In Court's words, "Over the past 20 years, people have asked me what was the best thing about Donovan? It's the people. Fr. Donovan believed in creating a sense of community and I'd have to say his spirit still motivates us today to keep community, or should I say, family, as the top priority here at our school."



Memorial Scholarships

EVELYN BROWN
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

ELIZABETH OLSON
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

DONNA CHICK
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

ANTONIO PAGANO
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

BOB CIELO
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

JAMES J. RUSSO
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

NICKY COSTELLO
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

A spouse, a child, a grandparent,
a dear friend, a classmate,
the teacher you'll never forget.....

Honor and remember those you've lost.
Establish a scholarship in someone's name.
Support an existing memorial scholarship.

SEAN EMMETT SIMON
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

ALICE FRENCH
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

The gift is two-fold.
It provides a Catholic education to a student in need.
It perpetuates the memory of a loved one.

SISTER KATHLEEN M.
SKURKA, O.P.,
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

CHRISTOPHER PAUL
HARPER MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP



CARL AND IRIS SOUTH
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

LORI LONG
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

SUSAN ULDRICH
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

DOUG MCCARTHY
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

THOMAS WHITNEY
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

SISTER
BARBARA MOORE
ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

To create a memorial scholarship
or to donate to an existing scholarship,
contact Andrea Apruzzese
in the Office of Institutional Advancement
at 732-349-8801, x 2435 or
aapruzzese@mondonhs.com

JOHN WROBLEWSKI
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

DOUG OLAND
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

2012

Celebrate!

50 years of activities
50 years of athletics
50 years of creativity
50 years of service
50 years of competition
50 years of education
50 years of faith
50 years of tradition
50 years of excellence

Calling all alumni of
St. Joseph/Monsignor Donovan High School
Help us plan the biggest year-long
50th Anniversary Celebration imaginable!
**We are seeking representatives from our entire
50 year history!**

Once a Griffin, always a Griffin!

Contact Erin Lesperance at elesperance@mondonhs.com
or Andrea Apruzzese at aapruzzese@mondonhs.com
if you are interested in joining the planning committee.
Meetings will begin in September 2010.



St. Joseph's Century Club to Honor

Mrs. Jeanne Punderson

Founded forty-seven years ago, the Saint Joseph's Century Club provides scholarships for students from Saint Joseph's Grade School who attend Monsignor Donovan High School. Each year, a Gala is held to raise funds for these scholarships.

The **2010 Century Club Gala** will be held on **Friday, May 14, 2010** at the Holiday Inn in Toms River. This year's honoree is **Mrs. Jeanne Punderson**.

Jeanne Voelker Punderson grew up in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn where she graduated from St. Angela Hall Academy on Washington Ave. Jeanne graduated from the College of St. Elizabeth in Convent Station, New Jersey with a Bachelor of Science degree. She was employed as a dietician by Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan until her marriage, in 1943, to James Punderson. They were married at the Cathedral of the Air, Lakehurst, where James was stationed as a Navy blimp pilot. They settled in Lakehurst and became active members of St. John's Parish. Jeanne managed through her enthusiasm and faith to revitalize the St. John's Rosary Altar Society.

She became an active and well-known member of the St. Joseph community when the first of her nine children began to attend the grade school in 1950. She became a charter member of the PTA, which began with the arrival of **Father Lawrence Donovan**. Jeanne continued her involvement with the PTA while all of her children attended and graduated from the grade school. During this time, she was involved in a variety of roles, including president of the PTA.

In 1960, the Punderson's moved to Island Heights. Their commitment to Catholic education increased, as did their involvement in St. Joseph Parish. Over the years, Jeanne and Jim were active in Parish Council, Holy Name Society, PTA's, fundraisers, building committees, and social activities. Throughout those years, Jeanne and Jim developed a close relationship with Monsignor Donovan and vigorously assisted him in his goals to develop St. Joseph parish and "his" Catholic schools.

The two oldest Punderson children are St. Rose High School graduates, as St. Joseph High School was not yet built. Their son, **Monsignor Joseph Punderson**, was a member of St. Joseph High School's first graduating class. Jeanne continued her involvement in the high school also, serving as president of the PTA. Today, Jeanne continues her involvement as a Trustee of St. Gertrude Church, Island Heights. She also serves as a charter member of the St. Joseph Endowment Committee for Catholic Education.

Jeanne and her daughter **Mary Punderson Henderson '72** are the only mother and daughter in SJ/MDHS history to both serve as presidents of the PTA.

All nine of the Punderson children are college graduates; seven having attained Masters Degrees. Jeanne has 18 grandchildren, six of whom graduated from St. Joseph Grade School. Five grandchildren are graduates of Monsignor Donovan High School.

Congratulations Mrs. Punderson on this well-deserved honor!



Mrs. Punderson celebrated her 90th birthday with her nine children. (Back row, l-r) Monsignor Joseph Punderson '66, John '74 and Jamie (SRHS '65) (Front l-r) Jerry '75, Mary P. Henderson '72, Katharine P. Collins (SRHS '62), Laura P. McGuigan '77, Jeanne P. Gross '68 and Margaret P. Convey '69

Alumni Bulletin Board

7th Annual Doug Oland Surf Contest

The 7th Annual Doug Oland Surf Contest will take place in September on the weekend following Labor Day! Tell all your friends and family to look for news about the 7th Annual Doug Oland Surf contest and come spend the day with us!



Wanted: New Members!

The SJ/MDHS Alumni Association needs new members!
We are seeking representation from every decade – 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's, 2000's.
Please contact Andrea Apruzzese in the Alumni Office at aapruzzese@mondohs.com if you are interested in joining.
The time commitment is minimal and the rewards are great!

Linkedin®

Share knowledge and tap into relationships. Join the **St. Joseph /Monsignor Donovan High School Alumni Association** group on LinkedIn® (www.linkedin.com) Stay informed and keep in touch with people who share your background.

Facebook.com

We are excited to say that the SJHS/MDHS Alumni Office is now on Facebook!
Please join the **OFFICIAL St. Joseph/Monsignor Donovan High School Alumni Group.**

Mark your Calendars

Homecoming 2010
Friday, October 22
6:30 p.m.
MDHS
vs.
Wall High School

In Memory

The Lustgarten Foundation will host **"The Inaugural Cleo Tuscano Pancreatic Cancer Research Walk"** on **Sunday, May 16, 2010** at the Manasquan Reservoir in Howell, NJ. Cleo was the mother of **David Tuscano '97** and **Nicole Tuscano '00.**

The Lustgarten Foundation donates 100% of the money raised directly to pancreatic cancer research.

For more info, to participate in the walk and/or to make a donation, visit: www.lustgarten.org. Click on "Get Involved">"Pancreatic Cancer Research Walks">Howell Walk.

Seeking Donations

The **Class of 1999** is seeking donations of items that can be raffled off at their reunion. Raffle proceeds will benefit the families of their deceased classmates

Craig Doscher, Michael Fuccile
and **Heather Rose.**

Contact: mondon99donate@hotmail.com

Reunion Updates

An updated and revised Reunion Resource Guide is available for those graduates who are ready to plan class reunions.

Contact the Alumni Office at 732-349-8801, x2434 or elesperance@mondonhs.com for information about planning a reunion or a reunion already in the planning stages.

You can also click on the Reunion Tab on the E-board at the Alumni link on the MDHS webpage – www.mondonhs.com

Save the Dates!

Class of 1980

30 year Reunion!

Saturday, July 17, 2010

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Jack Baker's Wharfside

101 Channel Drive, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ
\$40/person, Cocktails/Hors d'oeuvres/Open Bar

RSVP by June 1, 2010

Please make checks payable to:

Debbie Terlizzi Noce

6 Quaker Lane, Little Silver NJ 07739

For more info, contact Debbie at

dnoce@vzw.blackberry.net

Class of 1990

20 Year Reunion!

Saturday, October 16, 2010

7:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Spring Lake Manor

415 Route 71, Spring Lake, NJ

\$100/person (in advance)

\$115/person (at the door)

Open Premium Bar/Hors d'oeuvres/Bufferet Dinner/DJ

To reserve tickets, contact:

Mina Lorusso at minalorusso@aol.com

Class of 1985

25 Year Reunion!

Saturday, November 27, 2010

6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Quality Inn

Route 37 West, Toms River, NJ

Invitations will be mailed out by July

Contact: Chris Vaz at cvaz@vazlaw.com

Class of 2000

10 year Reunion!

Saturday, September 11, 2010

6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Martell's Waters Edge

125 Bayview Ave., Bayville, NJ 08721

\$60/person, Open bar/Backyard BBQ/Bar entertainment

Payment in full is required prior to event.

Click on "Boxes" tab on Facebook to link to the PayPay account
<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=358990624424&index=1>

or contact: mdhs00reunion@gmail.com

Want to help plan your reunion;
Get Involved. Reconnect.

Class of 1971

40 Years!

Contact: Dennis Kelly

Paguy532011@msn.com

Class of 1972

40 Years!

Contact: Jeanne Heisler

jheisler@ronanagency.com

Class of 1975

35 Year Reunion

Contact: Susan Jones McLaughlin

smsusieq57@verizon.net

Class of 1981

30 Year Celebration

Contact: Kathleen Lewandowski

klewandowski@nj.rr.com

Jens Feeley: tjfeeley@comcast.net

Class of 2005

5 Year Get-together

Contact: Cesar Rufo

Cesarrufo1287@gmail.com

We could use organizers
for the following reunions.

1976, 1986, 1991, 1995, 1996, 2001, 2006

Please let us know if you can help!

Contact: Andrea Apruzzese

Director of Alumni Relations

aapruzzese@mondonhs.com

Renewing the Griffin Spirit!

Class of 2004

reported by

Ashley Reichelmann

On November 28, 2009, the Class of 2004 celebrated their five year reunion at Hemingway's in Seaside Heights. The Thanksgiving weekend drew about 100 MDHS graduates who have grown into business associates, production managers, graduate, law and medical school students, and NGO workers. The reunion was particularly graced by the presence of some rarely seen faces: Monsignor Sean Flynn, former director of MDHS, Gabe Abad, our exchange student from Ecuador, and classmates who have since stretched the bounds of places they call "home," traveling from Hawaii, California, North Carolina, Boston, Connecticut and New York City. Over three hours of music, hors d'oeuvres and spirits, we exchanged stories and fond memories amidst a backdrop of an ongoing slideshow of SJGS and MDHS photos. After the private party concluded, the night was still young and the reminiscing continued on the dance floor.

The Class of 2004 reunited with old friends and even made some new ones. We eagerly await the next grand gathering for our ten year reunion in 2014. Hope to see you there. Until then, keep in touch!

The Alumni Office wishes to thank Ashley, Tracey Steigerwald and Jessica Blau for their hard work in putting this reunion together!



(l-r) Alex Larkin, Ashley Reichelmann, Janette Lopez, Laura Apruzzese and Jessica Blau



Members of the Class of 2004 gather for a group photo.



(l-r) Stephen Fraclose, John Massey, Mike Krenek, Gabe Abad, Mrs. Margi Wright and Joe Pangaro



(l-r) Julianne Settani, Alicia MacDonald, Nicole Platt, Jessica Lastimoso, Patricia Gabriel-Formico



(l-r) Jack Taylor, Tracey Steigerwald, Gabe Abad and Ashley Reichelmann



Stephen Fraclose, Damian Germinario, and Clinton Kennedy



(l-r) Gabe Abad, Hadi Adam Poresky, Bridget Dowd, Brittany Powers, Adam Mastapeter, Joe Giglio, Stephen Fraclose and Joe Pangaro

Renewing the Griffin Spirit!

Class of 1977 50th Birthday Bash reported by Cindy Bacon Martin

The Class of 1977 gathered together at Christopher's Pub for our 50ish Birthday Bash on Friday, November 27, 2009. We wanted to share our 50ish birthdays all as one. We had a great time celebrating and getting reacquainted with many of our classmates. We are looking forward to another mini reunion possibly in the summer of 2010. Please join us on Facebook. We are looking for lost classmates. Get reconnected with your class. Looking forward to hearing from you!! Contact Cindy at cinmart@aol.com.

Thanks, Cindy for a clever idea and for keeping the Alumni Office posted.



(l-r) Pia Maier,
Janice Knapp Poinsett,
Chiarina LaRue,
Maureen Cullen Keenan



(l-r) Dawn Kierney Philpot,
Tom Schroll,
Maryann Johnson Koziol,
Donna Marie Pulos,
Vickie Justice, Judy Viggiano



(l-r) Dave DelPizzo,
Henry Krywinski, Ken Stocco



(l-r) Richard Cawley,
Kevin T. Aiello,
Ken Stocco, Bill Burke

17-Year Celebration for the Class of 1992 Reported by Ryan Harrivan

On November 28, 2010 the Class of 1992 finally got back together for their first reunion since graduation. The Class of 1992 hosted their 17 Year Class Reunion (yes, an odd year for a reunion?!), at the Ocean Place Resort in Long Branch, NJ, exactly where they hosted their Senior Prom 17 years earlier.

The reunion was well attended by more than half the graduating class and all had a great time, partying well into the evening. The reunion was such a success that the class is planning many more micro-reunions (with the assistance of facebook.com) until their 20th Class Reunion, which will be held in 2012!

The Alumni Office thanks Ryan for his work on the reunion and these great photos!



MDHS Class of 1992 17 Year Reunion - Class Photo



Meita Harahap
and Ryan Harrivan



Jim Tobin, Steven Luzzi
and Frank Shiano

Karen DeSimone (Silva),
Beth Rogers (Nepomuceno),
Kim Frazier,
Carolyn Kauffman (Voss),
Meita Harahap
and Diana Brush (Chaker)



Class Notes

Class of 1967

Julie Groff Mercer has become a grandmother! Granddaughter Hannalei Mercer arrived on April 8, 2010



Class of 1971

Richard Ensor's children were behind Vice President Joseph Biden when he was interviewed by ESPN at the NCAA Women's Final Four in San Antonio. That's **Colleen '12** and **Kiernan '10** in the second row, far left.

Class of 1974

Aaron Jacobs is currently living in Jacksonville, FL and wishes his classmates much success. Contact him at co_jake@hotmail.com.

Class of 1975

Susan Jones McLaughlin is a stay-at-home mom of a 12 year old son. She works for her husband's tree service: Pete's Pruning in Howell, NJ and would love to hear from 1975 classmates!

Class of 1977

Glenn Taranto, an accomplished character actor, is now a successful screen writer. His film, *Stolen*, starring Josh Lucas and Jon Hamm is being released by IFC. It opened at the Clearview Chelsea in New York on March 12, 2010.

Class of 1980

Donna Gantt Milana has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Village Mountain Mission Project. Two years ago, Mrs. Milana, a MDHS faculty member, began organizing summer trips for students to the Dominican Republic to build houses with the VMMP.

Class of 1981

Vincent Hogan is a newly elected city council member in Port Wentworth, Georgia, just outside Savannah. He received the most votes in the city's history! He was sworn in on January 4, 2010 and was named mayor Pro tempore as a Republican.

Teresa Muccifori Hinke and her children got to visit backstage with Broadway's *Phantom*, **John Cudia '88**.

(l-r) Jessica Hinke, 16, Jackie Hinke, 18, John Cudia, Teresa, and Matthew Hinke, 12. Jessica Hinke is a freshman at Fordham University which is John's alma mater!



Class of 1985

Christopher Vaz has authored "Seaside Heights – A Postcard History". The book is due to be released on or about May 10, 2010. The book is published by Arcadia Publishing.
http://arcadiapublishing.com/mm5/merchant.mvc?Screen=PROD&Product_Code=9780738572482

Class of 1986

Guy D'Andrea and his wife Eileen Madden D'Andrea welcomed twin daughters, Josephine and Fiona on March 24, 2010. The girls join older brothers, Connor, 11 and Brendan, 6.

Michael Marfori is married with 3 children. He lives in Orlando, FL and practices pediatric dentistry. He comes up to NJ to visit his family, including his sister **Michelle '89** who lives in Farmingdale. He said: "**Dino Espineli '89** is now related to me, who would have thought that!"

Class of 1987

Chris Burgess is celebrating his 20th year with American Express and is the recipient of the *Regents Club* award, which is the highest award for his position (Meeting Manager.)

Stephanie Redish Hofmann and her husband Rick welcomed their first child Cooper Hofmann on August 25, 2009.

Class of 1988

Leah Byrd lives in Dallas, Texas and works as a Payroll Coordinator for a Kimpton Hotel. She doesn't get back to New Jersey much and would love to hear from classmates. leahbyrd@excite.com.

Jennifer Angowski Dawson and her children Will and CJ, got to meet fellow 1988 classmate **John Cudia** after a recent performance of Broadway's *Phantom of the Opera*, in which John plays the title role.

Michael Nagy was honored by the Jersey Shore Region's American Cancer Society as a Volunteer of the Year. Dr. Nagy is a Board Certified Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon.



Class of 1993

Jen Molinelli Sharpe has been married to Thomas Sharpe since 2001. They have a three year old son, Stephen and a year old daughter Sarah. Jen works for Merck Pharmaceuticals in Kenilworth, NJ.

Class of 1995



Natalie Markevich Cortale was featured on the cover of the December 2009 issue of *Celebrations* magazine.

Class of 1998

Robert Sussino is engaged to Kristie Matias, sister of **Laura Matias '08**. They have set a wedding date of July 8, 2011.

Class of 1999

Michael Smullen has been appointed the Director of Alumni Affairs for Berkeley College. Michael has a BA in Political Science from Drew University.



Michael Smullen

Class of 2000

Alison Bruzgis and Andrew Rosabianca were married on June 20, 2009 at St. Mary's of the Lake Church in Lakewood, NJ. The pair resides in Quincy, MA where Alison is a Senior Internal Auditor and Andrew is a Senior Assistant Director of Admissions and Application Evaluation at Northeastern University. Alumni in the wedding included **Laura Bruzgis '94**, **Michael Bruzgis '96**, **Toni Lynch '00** and **Alexis DeMartino '00**.



Amy Burris Popailo has been married to Paul Popailo since 2003. They have a daughter Mia Emily born in September 2005. They currently reside in Okinawa, Japan.

Pearl Tamargo is pleased to announce her engagement to Phillip Hann of Toms River, a firefighter for Toms River Fire Company 2. They are planning an August 7, 2010 wedding.

Class of 2002

Karen Lopez has been inducted into the National Veterinary Honor Society at Cornell University. Additionally, in May, she is receiving her Master of Public Health from the University of Minnesota.

Greg Plavcan graduated from Catholic University of America with a master's in Architecture in December 2009. He is currently employed as an intern architect at Kleinrock Studio in Washington DC.

Class of 2003

Callan Wright will graduate from Rutgers University School of Law in Camden, NJ on May 24, 2010. She will be taking both the New Jersey and New York bar examinations this summer. Starting in September 2010, she will be clerking for the Honorable John R. Rauh in Cape May, NJ.

Class of 2006

Katie Bigg (pictured on left) was named the Saint Peter's College NJIAAW Woman of the Year. Katie is a three-time member of the MAAC All-Academic (Swim) Team. She is president of the education honor society and vice president of the student education association.



Class of 2007

Dana Vouglitois graduated in December 2009 from Georgian Court University Magna Cum Laude and with University Honors. She received a BA in Communications. She was admitted into the University of Miami's School of Law class of 2013. She will be pursuing her Juris Doctor degree in Entertainment Law and a Master of Music degree in Music Business and Entertainment Industries. This dual degree program in law and music business is the first of its kind in the United States.

Class of 2008

Alyssa Conroy was named to the MAAC 2010 Women's Swimming and Diving All Academic Team.

Jon Fernandez is a sophomore at Mount St. Mary's and was named the Road Runner Sports Northeast Conference Field Athlete of the Week for April 13, 2010. He set the Mount's school record in the javelin at the Lou Onesty Invitational hosted by the University of Virginia. This record breaking throw earned him first place at the meet and broke him into the top 50 (47th) on the national leader board.





Into His Hands



The St. Joseph/Monsignor Donovan High School community offers prayers for those who have died as well as for their families.

Mary Condon, mother-in-law of faculty member **Michael Taris** and grandmother of **Michael Taris '92**, **Ann Taris '94** and **Denise Taris '99**

Gerard Christopher Ferraro, son of faculty member **Gerard Ferraro '66** and brother of **Kimberly Ferraro Szangar '90**

John Kelly, father of main office secretary **Mary Kornak** and grandfather of **Mary Beth Kornak '10**

Edward Joseph Lata, father of **Jennifer '78**, **JoAnn '79** and **Josette '86**

Alice Milana, grandmother of **Donna Gantt Milana '80** and great-grandmother of **Kyle '08**, **Sean** and **Ryan '10** and **Kelly '13 Milana**

Rachel Segreto Moriarity '88, sister of **Frank '80** and aunt of **Luke '07** and **Paul '10**

Orlando "Big O" Ramirez, father of **John '70**, **Ron '71** and **Stephanie '72 Ramirez**

Heather R. Rose '90

Thomas P. "Sully" Sullivan, Jr. '70

Joanna Topczewski '01, sister of **Chris '04** and **Diana '09**

Dora Vona, grandmother of **Justin '03**, **Alyssa '07** and **Christina '10 Vona**

Patricia McDevitt Whitehair '68, sister of **Connie McDevitt Brown '80**, cousin of **Colleen McDevitt Boueil '66**, the late **Linda McDevitt '68** and **Neil McDevitt '73**

Ann M. Verwey, grandmother of **Michael '02**, **John '06** and **Kimberly '08 Verwey**

Guy Zoppi, father of faculty member **Suzanne Roche**



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