

# PENITIMENTO

to see & see again

SAINT DOMINIC ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 52 SUMMER 2012

## SDA Appoints New Academic Dean

*Veteran English Teacher Assumes New Role*



*SDA English teacher John Seborowski was promoted to Academic Dean.*

After 12 years of teaching English at SDA, John Seborowski has been duly chosen to take on a new role as the Academy's Academic Dean. For the past seven years, "Mr. Seb" has served as the English Department Chairperson and has been the Director of the Summer Program for the past four years.

With the departure of Mr. Tom Corbo, who served as principal for the last two years, Head of School Barbara Griffin looked for someone to take over the responsibility for the academic program. Based on her experience with the faculty, she immediately thought of Mr. Seborowski. She observed, "Who knows the program better than a

respected member of the faculty for over 10 years? I have every confidence that John will bring great energy and enthusiasm to his new role."

While Mr. Seborowski began teaching at SDA in 2000, he has been part of the SDA Family since the first of his four sisters entered as a freshman in 1995. Along with Beth who graduated in 1999, his three other sisters are Lynne '01, Claire '03 and Louise '05.

"My sisters have all told me that they are extremely proud that I have a position of leadership at their alma mater," stated Mr. Seborowski. "In fact, my mother and father often joke and say they are the only parents in SDA history to put four daughters and a son through the Academy."

Mr. Seborowski received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Flagler University in Florida in 2000 and his Master's Degree in Administration/Supervision in 2007 from Saint Peter's College, now Saint Peter's University. In his 12 years at SDA, Mr. Seborowski has certainly played a strong role in the education and empowerment of hundreds of young women and he appreciates the classroom teaching atmosphere of the Academy.

"When I listen to friends who teach at other schools, they always comment on how hard it is to come in and simply be able to teach the objective of the day," he states. "I have never felt that way in this building because we really do have amazing young women who know why they are here and want to make the most of their time here."

continued on page 2

## A Fine Farewell *Three Retire from SDA*



*Mrs. Marilyn French receives grateful applause from SDA Advancement Director Kate Lillis-Magnus '83 during the Academy's retirement party in June.*

With 83 years of combined service to SDA, Marilyn French, Marge Magaldi, P'75 and Altagracia Jimenez retired at the end of the school year.

After 36 years as the SDA Librarian, Mrs. Marilyn French retired in June. Mrs. French enjoyed her years helping the students with their research and was extremely proud that two of her "student helpers" became librarians themselves. Mrs. French's future plans include volunteering more time at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, visiting more museums, and cheering for her grandson at his crew races.

Long-time school secretary, Mrs. Marge Magaldi, P'75, also retired at the year-end. A warm and friendly face since her daughter Rosemary entered as a freshman in 1971, Mrs. Magaldi has been a part of the SDA Community for more than four decades. Mrs. Magaldi enjoyed her work on the Mothers' Club so much that she took on the job of secretary after Rosemary graduated in 1975.

continued on page 3



# From the Head of School's Desk

September 2012

Dear Friends of St Dominic Academy,



As I read this issue of *Pentimento* before it went to the printer, it reminded me of all the wonderful events that take place at the Academy all year

long. There are so many opportunities for SDA graduates to stay connected with their "school chums" and support the school at the same time.

We had a most enjoyable Alumnae Reunion Weekend for all reunion classes here in Jersey City in April. It was exciting to meet so many members of the celebrating classes, starting with the Wine Tasting Reception on Friday evening in Madonna Hall. My favorite memory from the weekend was the moment at the end of the Glee Club Concert on Sunday afternoon at St. Aloysius Church, when alumnae in town for the Reunion Brunch, joined the Glee Club for the singing of the Alma Mater.

You will also read about alumnae volunteers at the Annual Fund Phonathon. Some of these most loyal daughters of SDA come year after year to help the school in its effort to reach out for support from the alumnae. They are

joined by members of the current student body, who are among our most successful solicitors, as they talk to their SDA "sisters" about the excellent education they are receiving.

In this issue we are saying a fond "Farewell and Thank You" to some longtime members of the faculty and staff and a heartfelt "Congratulations!" to veteran English teacher, John Seborowski, on his promotion to Academic Dean. In the next issue we will introduce the newest members of the SDA community, who will bring their own special gifts to our wonderful school. We hope that they will stay for a long time, so they have the opportunity to see generations of young women grow up before their eyes.

As always, we are deeply grateful for the loyal and generous support of all our donors, whether alumnae, parents or friends. The Academy needs an army of true believers to help us carry out our mission of Empowering Young Women for Leadership—a lofty goal indeed.

Sincerely,

Barbara Griffin

## SDA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Margaret Fox-Tully '75, Chairwoman
- Silvana Buccianti P '03
- Sister Rita Calabrese, O.P.
- Sister Peggy Ann Clinton, O.P. '75
- The Honorable Madeline Cox Arleo '81
- Sister Patricia Crowley, O.P.
- Dr. Philip Frezzo, P '95
- Gail P. Godesky
- Sister Patricia Hogan, O.P. '59
- Nancy Kist, Esq., '82
- Rev. James Manos
- Tara McCann '94
- William J. Milczarski, Ph.D., AICP
- Vincent J. Militello, Esq.
- Susan Odenthal '73
- Sister Luella Ramm, O.P.
- George T. Taite, Esq. P '14
- Sister Pat Tavis, O.P.

## SDA LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Barbara Boyd Griffin  
*Head of School*
- John Seborowski  
*Academic Dean*
- Sister Mary Lou Bauman, O.P. '65  
*Vice Principal*
- Sharon Buge  
*Director of Finance*
- Kate Lillis-Magnus '83  
*Director of Advancement*
- Andrea Villani Apruzzese '75  
*Director of Admissions*

## SDA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

- Staci Zegler '83  
*President*
- Tracey Morley '80  
*Vice President*
- Stephanie Barbi '64  
*Secretary*

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Mr. Seborowski also believes in the values of single gender education and feels the SDA experience is a great foundation for high school girls.

"We present young women in Northern New Jersey with a unique opportunity to not only get an excellent all-around education, but also give them the confidence necessary to be successful in higher education and any career path they might choose," he states. "I cannot tell you how many students have come back and said they feel so much more secure in themselves in a college classroom than some of their other peers who came from a co-ed high school background."

One of Mr. Seborowski's objectives is to improve the Academy's partnership with Saint Peter's

University, Seton Hall University and other institutions in regard to students receiving college credit both inside the building and out. He looks forward to working with the faculty and students in his new role as he perceives this relationship between the two as one of the many positive attributes of the Academy. He believes a special feeling of community exists at SDA and that impression is felt within a few minutes of walking in the door.

"I have heard many visitors say when they enter this building that something just feels different - the energy, the vibe, something makes the Academy a place like no other and I am humbled to be part of that every day," he states. We wish "Mr. Seb" much success in his leadership role at SDA.

# Alumna Spotlight

## “Typical SDA Girl” Sister Mary Ann O’Connor, O.P., ‘48 Still Making Music

by Rosemary Gleeson ‘65

**S**r. Mary Ann O’Connor, O.P., ‘48, is alive and well in Spring Lake, New Jersey and is in her 27th year as Director of Music at Saint Catherine-Saint Margaret. A Caldwell Dominican for 64 years and former Saint Dominic Academy faculty member, Sister Mary Ann continues to enjoy all that life has to offer after many wonderful years teaching with kindergartners, high school and college students as well as parishioners.

While her years teaching kindergarten at Saint John’s in Jersey City will always be among her fondest memories, they are matched by her years of creating “The Children’s Concert” at Caldwell College. Sister’s years at both SDA and Mount Saint Dominic Academy were also wonderful. Sister Mary Ann loved the material she was covering, but more importantly, she loved her students.

Maurica Doyle, Mount Saint Dominic Academy Alumnae Director and former student remarked, “No one at MSD was more beloved than Sister Mary Ann. She not only taught us to sing and love music, but she also encouraged us to laugh and love life.”



Sr. Mary Ann O’Connor, O.P., ‘48 and the Saint Catherine Choir at her 60th Jubilee Mass in 2008.

Sister Mary Lou Bauman, O.P., ‘65, current Vice Principal and Director of Student Life at Saint Dominic Academy as well as a former kindergartener of Sister Mary Ann, remarked, “What I am most grateful for -- and what I am sure hundreds of others are most grateful for -- is her incredible generosity in always making herself available to those of us who lost a family member. I will never forget her leaving retreat to come home and sing at my mother’s funeral.”

In her almost three decades as Director of Music at Saint Catherine-Saint Margaret, Sister Mary Ann has touched the lives of those preparing to marry as well as those saying farewell to their beloved departed. Friend Joyce McManus commented, “I am proud and happy to have been part of Sister’s choir in Our Lady of Peace, New Providence, NJ and to continue with her choir in Saint Catherine-Saint Margaret.”

Named in the 1948 yearbook the “Typical SDA Girl,” Sister Mary Ann’s voice can still be heard on both the Caldwell Dominican website and on her two CDs: “Sing God a Simple Song” and “Sing God a Christmas Song.”



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Left: Proud sons Miguel and Nicholas joined the festivities with their mother, Altigracia Jimenez. Center: Children and grandchildren surround Marge Magaldi P’75 at her retirement party. From left are John Chester, Tim Chester, Rosemary Chester ‘75, Marge Magaldi, Tom Magaldi, Sharon Magaldi, Christina Magaldi, Jessica Magaldi, and Megan Chester. Right: Current SDA teacher Violeta McKenzie and retired SDA teacher Mrs. Zaballero attended the reception to extend their good wishes to Mrs. Jimenez

She worked through the tenure of eight different principals in her 35 years at SDA and was a second mother to many students who took to her affectionate demeanor. Mrs. Magaldi’s retirement plans include spending more time with her family.

After a stellar career of teaching in the Dominican Republic, where a school is named in her honor, Altigracia “Carmen” Jimenez joined the SDA staff in 2000. Mrs. Jimenez retired in June after 12 years of teaching Spanish. The vision of Mrs. Jimenez

pulling her mini suitcase of books through the halls of SDA is just a memory, but her mark has been left on hundreds of students. Mrs. Jimenez plans on traveling extensively over the next few years.

# Alumna and Mother Leave Generous Bequest

## Shanley Women Loyal to the End



Geri Shanley '54

**Y**ou did not have to graduate with *Geri Shanley* in 1954 to know how loyal she was to Saint Dominic Academy. Not only was Geri active with her classmates, but she and her mother, Rita, could always be found at any SDA event whether it was run by the Mothers' Club, the Alumnae Association or the school itself.

Although both women are no longer with us, their generosity continues at SDA. It was Geri's wish to leave a large gift to her alma mater upon her death. In rare and sad circumstances, children sometimes die before their parents and Geri passed away before her mother who lived in 2010. Upon



Rita Shanley

the execution of Rita's last will and testament, Geri's wish was fulfilled as the Academy received a \$40,000 bequest.

After Geri retired from NYNEX, she worked with Jane Albert in SDA's Development Office. "Geri was always faithful to SDA and she would do anything to support the school," remembers Jane. "Geri and Rita would come to all SDA luncheons and they both enjoyed life and loved parties."

The Academy is grateful to both Geri and Rita for their commitment to SDA both during their time here on earth and in their eternal life.

## SDA Families in Crisis Update



**D**ue to the generosity of several alumnae and friends, the SDA families who were experiencing financial hardship at the end of last semester were able to complete the 2011-12 academic year without an outstanding tuition balance.

After publishing an article entitled "SDA Families in Crisis" in the last issue of *Pentimento*, a number of readers responded with donations for a few of our families. While the families continue to rebound from such setbacks as the death of a parent and limited job opportunities, each have committed to return for the 2012-13 year.

Both SDA and the assisted families extend their gratitude to the donors who were able to lend a hand of support at such a difficult time.

## Join the SDA Madonna Society

The Madonna Society is a group of individuals who have expressed their commitment to Saint Dominic Academy through a very special and important form of financial support. These donors have named SDA as the ultimate beneficiary of a planned gift such as a bequest, charitable gift annuity, retirement plan gift, or life insurance gift.

These members have a vested interest to ensure the Academy continues its long-standing legacy of empowering young women for leadership.

### Goals of the Society

*To preserve the life-changing education that is an SDA tradition*

*To provide friends of Saint Dominic Academy with opportunities for beneficial giving*

*To build an endowment to ensure the long-term viability of the Academy*

Saint Dominic Academy invites you to become a member of The Madonna Society to help preserve the Academy's long-term prosperity. For additional information on the Society, please contact Kate Lillis Magnus at (201) 434-5938 ext. 42 or [klillis@stdominicacad.com](mailto:klillis@stdominicacad.com)

# Graduation 2012 Festivities

Over \$9.8M in Scholarships Awarded



1) Congratulations to the Class of 2012! As of press time, 84% of this year's seniors pledged their graduation year in dollars \$20.12 in support of their alma mater's annual fund! 2) **Michele Traina Ambrosio '85** attended the Baccalaureate Mass with her legacy daughter, **Emily Ambrosio '12**. 3) SDA Alumnae Association President **Staci Zegler '83** and Secretary **Stephanie Barbi '64** welcomed **Alexandra Marrero '12** into the elite organization at the June Baccalaureate Mass. 4) Co-valedictorians **Sarah Sisk '12** and **Toni-Anne Fajardo '12**. 5) **Susan Mulvaney Odenthal '73**, Vice President of Global Communications for Johnson & Johnson Corporation and a current member of the SDA Board of Trustees spoke at graduation in June and addressed the Class of 2012 with an inspirational message of service and leadership.



## Announcing the New SDA Parents' Association

2012-2013 Executive Officers

Co-Presidents  
Kathy and Rick Whelply  
kathy.whelply@gmail.com

Treasurer  
Mary Giacchi  
mgiacchi@optonline.net

Co-Vice Presidents  
Vicki and George Lindorff  
vlindorff@eclcofnj.org

Corresponding Secretary  
Marthalina Felix  
marthalinafelix@yahoo.com

Event Coordinator  
Felicia Rubino  
feliciarubino@gmail.com

Recording Secretary  
Carol Taite  
cttaite@hotmail.com

# Save the Date!

## 14th Annual SDA Leadership Awards Gala

Thursday, November 15, 2012  
Nanina's in the Park



*The Honorable Kevin G. Callahan, Mary Ann Molinari '67, and Marie Varley, Ed.D. '56 will receive the Dominican Pillar Award at the 14th Annual Leadership Awards Gala in November.*

**P**lease join us on November 15, 2012, at Nanina's in the Park in Belleville, New Jersey for our 14th Annual Leadership Awards Gala. This year's Dominican Pillar Award honorees include two alumnae who have demonstrated unflagging commitment to their respective communities and to their Alma Mater.

Marie Varley, Ed.D, class of 1956, is the Regional Director for Church World Service/CROP for the New York metro area. The non-profit organization works to eradicate hunger and poverty and to promote peace and justice around the world. Dr. Varley is a former member of the Academy's Board of Trustees and currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Sisters of Saint Dominic, Caldwell, New Jersey.

Our other alumna honoree is Mary Ann Molinari, class of 1967, who recently retired from The Dress Barn, Inc., where she was Vice President of Merchandising for the New York retail corporation. Ms. Molinari has been an active member in Sts. Joseph and Michael Parish in Union City for her entire life. She was a Team Leader for the Parish Youth Ministry, and the Assistant Director for Youth Theater Workshop. Ms. Molinari was also a member of the Veronica's Veil Guild for over 20 years, and was past President of the Parish Council. It is our pleasure to honor Ms. Molinari with the Dominican Pillar Award.

The third honoree is The Honorable Kevin G. Callahan, JD, Seton Hall Law School, Superior Court Judge (retired) of Hudson County. Judge Callahan was President of The Saint Dominic Academy Fathers' Club

while his daughter, Megan, class of 1993, attended the school. Today Judge Callahan is a full-time faculty member of the Criminal Justice Department at Saint Peter's University in Jersey City.

Our event includes dinner and open bar with a spectacular cocktail hour beginning at 6 p.m. During the evening we will hold both a live and silent auction as well as a "Fund a Scholar" segment. Proceeds from the Gala benefit the scholarship fund which supports young girls who are academically capable of excelling at the Academy, but financially unable to do so. Our 2012 graduates received over \$9.8 million in academic scholarships and 99% of them went on to college. For more information go to our website at [www.stdominicacad.com](http://www.stdominicacad.com).

Can't attend, but would like to participate some way? You can play a role at the Gala by donating an item to the auction or sending congratulatory wishes to our honorees with an ad in our Gala journal.

For more information email [advancement@stdominicacad.com](mailto:advancement@stdominicacad.com) or call Kate Lillis Magnus, Director of Advancement at 201 434 5938 ext 42.

# OUT & ABOUT



*Alumnae from the Class of 1956 met at SDA for a brief visit, toured Jersey City and then lunched at the Liberty House in Liberty State Park. From left: Ann McGovern, Dr. Marie Varley, Barbara Fallon Brinley, Dorothy Gier Magarelli, Barbara Orrick McGlynn, Ernie Sofia Buchalski, Rita Connors Hermanns, and Joan Stemmler Sorrentino.*

## Summer Visit

*The Academy ran its 14th Annual Spring Thaw on March 17th. SDA Athletic Director John Nagel hosted hundreds of friends and alumnae at Liberty State Park on a beautiful day for the Irish! **Jamie Sharrock '96**, husband Josh DeMaso and son James celebrated Saint Patrick's Day at the Spring Thaw.*



## Spring Thaw

# OUT & ABOUT



Freshman volunteers **Elena Velez '15** and **Jazmine Piperato '15**; Junior volunteer **Courtney Major '13**; **Rosemary Gagliardo Scott '69** has generously volunteered at Phonathon since its inception!

## Phonathon

With grants from the The Provident Bank Foundation and The William E. Simon Foundation, SDA was able to increase its signage and marketing materials. Look for our bus advertising, our banners along the JFK Boulevard and new awning over the main entrance.



## City Signage





# OUT & ABOUT

*Josyane Morrissey Coughlin '85 (seated, left) hosted a Poolside Reception at her beautiful home in Rumson, NJ. Area alumnae from 1947 through 1992 attended the get-together to hear the latest news about the Academy. Seated next to Josyane: Joan Delaney Emerson '48, Helen Morris O'Brien '50, Jane Doherty Hanley '47, Kathryn Perrin Cronin '48, SDA Head of School Barbara Griffin. Standing: Judith Mayer Casserly '85, Shannon Gorman Lancelotti '87, Barbara Calefati '85, Michele Traina Ambrosio '85, Venetoula Emporellis Zamarra '85, Susan Schember Dowden '84, Karen Kelly '79, Marialyce Fitzgerald '74, Kathy DeMarco Renz '92, Mary Weber Brassard '68, Julia Ann Morrissey-Chrobocinski '87, Jill Tatro Constantine '83, Ellen Reilly Privett '85, Lois LaPointe Kiely '61, Claire Buckley Roeber '61, Cathy Carnevale '79 and SDA Director of Advancement Kate Lillis-Magnus '83.*

## Poolside Reception



*Gail Marquis, MBS, CLTC, an insurance and financial services executive with MassMutual Financial Group who won a Silver Medal at the 1976 Montreal Olympics joined the SDA Blue Devils at their Athletic Awards dinner where she was the guest speaker. With Gail are SDA students Alexa Jacobsen '15 and Casey McIntyre '15 along with Alexa's dad, Peter Jacobsen P'15, whom Gail hired while she was at Merrill Lynch.*

## Olympian Guest



*Natalie Bello Gall '86 (front, left) brought a dozen Goldman Sachs employees to volunteer for some painting at SDA for the corporation's global initiative "Community Team-Works." Thank You, Natalie!*

## Goldman Sachs Community TeamWorks

# REUNION WEEKEND 2012



Top: Returning to SDA for a Champagne Tour prior to dinner at Edward's Steakhouse in Jersey City were many members of the Class of 1972. Front row from left: **Joan Doremus Farrell, Mary Waldron, Pat Carroll Criaris, Barbara Ziglear Buechner**; second row: **Melanie Winsick Tirello, Phyllis Alosco Mink, Donna Butkewicz Shaw, Pat Murphy**; third row: **Ellen Meagher Teresi, Vicki McDonald Lindorf, JoAnn Caiola Smith, Mary Ann Monteverde Hines, Joan Sinopoli, and Mary Hennessey**. Bottom: **Pat Murphy '72** recalls her days at SDA with **Phyllis Alosco Mink '72** on the Champagne Tour.



*You are cordially  
invited to*

*SDA Reunion  
Weekend 2013  
April 26-28*

*all alumnae welcome  
with special honors for  
classes ending in  
3 or 8*

*reunion questions call  
201 434-5938 ext 33 or  
email  
cvega@stdominicacad.  
com*

# REUNION WEEKEND 2012



1) The Class of 1992 had a fantastic turnout for their 30th reunion and gave the Academy a \$600 class gift. 2) **Andrea Burch '92, Eliza Comodromos-Langan '92, Nermin Boles Attia '92 and Sonja Dawkins-Garlin '92.** 3) **Janine Trancucci '92, Elizabeth Fredenburgh '92, and Lisa Svoronos '92.** 4) **Arlene Hoag '59** attended the weekend celebration with her aunt, **Mildred Hoag Gibson '47.** 5) **Nyree Smith '92, Andrea Burch '92, Aleli Tuason '92, Kimya Brown Jones '92, Sonja Dawkins-Garlin '92 and Akisia Grigsby '92.** 6) **Marie McCarthy Ansari '62, Veronica Tuohy Hudson '62 and Karen Paxson Sliwa '62.** 7) **Eileen Paxson Wilson '67 and Karen Paxson Sliwa '62** returned for Reunion Weekend and enjoyed the Friday night Wine Tasting in Madonna Hall.



# A L U M N A E N E W S

1946

**Ann Marie Belgam Aspey** and her husband Bill are very active volunteers in their New Jersey community. They are extremely proud of their grandson, Christopher Aspey, who graduated from West Point on May 26, 2012.

Frank and **Alvina Flad Mullin** celebrated 60 years of marriage before Frank's passing last April. They were married in Our Lady of Victories Church and were blessed with four children.

1952

**Margaret Walsh Flynn** and her husband Steve are enjoying their retirement travelling and keeping up with their grandsons' sports.

1954

**Veronica Ping** is enjoying an active retirement. She has been a board member for her village since 1995 and president of the board for the past 16 years. Ronnie is also treasurer for the Boca Club and the New Jersey Club for ten years. She loves Florida and her active community.

1957

In August 2011 **Geraldine Gillio** enjoyed a reunion with her Peace Corps friends in Portland, OR. One month later, Gerry attended her 50th anniversary weekend celebration of National Peace Corps Association in Washington, DC.

**Arlene Foligno Toro** and husband, Ben, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

1958

**Janet Stemmler Hector** celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary on June 30th. Jane is the proud grandmother of twelve grandchildren.

1959

**Susan McGee Fahy** is enjoying her

seven grandchildren ages 10 months to 11 years old. Susan enjoys sailing the ocean with her husband, John.

**Kathy Wynn Barnitt** is proud to announce that her granddaughter, Egan Barnitt of South Orange, will be continuing the Wynn/Barnitt tradition of Dominican education at Mount Saint Dominic Academy in September.

1961

**Sheila Varley Alfano** will be celebrating 50 years of marriage to husband, Al, next year!

**Mona Bassing Delaney** enjoyed her 50th class reunion at SDA and the luncheon on the boardwalk in Long Branch the next day. It had been 50 years since she was last in Jersey City and was amazed by the changes to her hometown. Mona says SDA looked wonderfully improved.

**Karen Gutch** and former SDA teachers William Milczarsk and Ann Marie Nazzaro will travel to Normandy, Brittany and Paris this summer.

**Phyllis Alfieri Somma** enjoyed seeing old friends at her 50th Reunion – "what a fabulous looking group of women!"

1962

**Elaine Quinlan King** welcomed her first great-grandchild. A baby boy born in May 2011 made for a great Mother's Day!

**Marie McCarthy Ansari** had a wonderful time at the reunion weekend. She also enjoyed the Glee Club concert.

1965

**Lorraine Martin Denick** and husband Michael are the proud grandparents of Colin Michael. "He is a joy and a blessing!"

**Delia Cutone Nerney** is enjoying life as a great grandmother!

1967

**Linda Leinweber Higgins** recently retired and is awaiting the birth of her fourth grandson. She and her husband Terrence are proud of all their children: Kelly, Erin and Major Terrence Higgins (US Army). Linda is looking forward to having her son return to the East Coast this summer with his wife, and sons TJ, Nate and Ben.

**Michelle Pagano Williams** is keeping busy with her job as Principal of St. Joseph Grammar School in Toms River, NJ and is also helping her daughter, Allison, with her wedding plans.

1969

**Geraldine Palecek Gargiulo** is retiring at the end of this school year from the North Bergen School District in NJ. Gerry has been a speech/language specialist since 1973.

**Beth Stevens O'Connor** and her husband Bob welcomed their fourth grandchild, Madeline Anna Bruce in November of 2011.

1971

**Nancy Peterson Superak** is a first-time grandmother to Emerson Isaac Yanosh as of January 2012.

1975

**Susan Jago Guglielmo** is teaching at Assumption School in Morristown, NJ.

1977

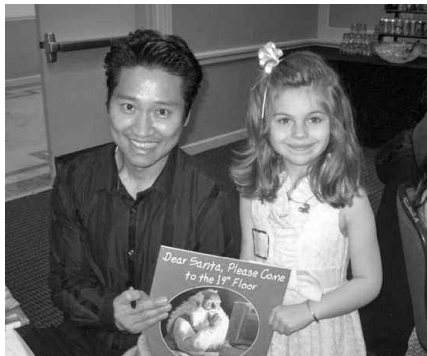
**Ann Marie Conheaney Forrest** celebrated two graduations this summer with her son Kevin graduating from St. Peter's College, and daughter, Mary, graduating from Villa Walsh Academy. Mary will be attending the University of Delaware. Ann Marie's daughter Deirdre will be graduating from Fairfield University next year.

1979

**Michele Ristaino Tedesco** shares the good news that her daughter, Olivia,

# A L U M N A E N E W S

will be a freshman at Georgetown University in September.



**Geralyn Guerra Lacourtna's '79 daughter Lucia with Chris Soentpiet, a book illustrator who was the guest speaker at the 2012 Enthusiastic Reader Award ceremony held at the Ocean Place Hilton.**

**Geralyn Guerra Lacourtna's** daughter, Lucia, was honored on May 5, 2012 with the 2012 Enthusiastic Reader Award presented by the NJ Association of Librarians.

1980

**Corazon Samala Gaglio** celebrated her 21st Anniversary in Hawaii. Son, Paul Jr., is a sophomore at Rutgers School of Arts & Science in New Brunswick, and his brother Jeffrey was accepted to Rutgers as well. Corazon's daughter, Amanda, is a freshman at Northern Valley Regional High School-Demarest and plays soccer and lacrosse.

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie selected **Kathy Gonzalez Monteiro** to be one of the 10 delegates for the Republican National Convention in Tampa, FL in August 2012!

**Colleen O'Dea** was awarded a fellowship to the Kiplinger Program in Public Affairs, Journalism at Ohio State University. She has also joined the staff of NJ Spotlight ([www.njspotlight.com](http://www.njspotlight.com)) as editor-at-large.

1983

**Lourdes Casas Sutton** successfully

defended her dissertation and is now officially Dr. Sutton!

1987

**Jennifer Hart Brogan** and husband Robert just celebrated the 25th anniversary of their first date, which was just before Jennifer's senior prom! They've been married 18 years and have seven children.

1988

**Stephanie Beeler** shares the news that she is married to Dan Obenauer and has an 18 month-old son, Emmet. She currently lives in Michigan and works for the US Geological Survey.

1989

**Suzette Gray** celebrated her 40th birthday at the Chart House Restaurant in Weehawken recently and had the pleasure of having two other alums from her class attend the special event, **Dr. Saquiba Syed** and **Joyce Clayborne, Esq.**

**Danielle Svoronos Togli** and her husband Clemente celebrated their 4th anniversary in April 2012.

1990

**Nicole Harrison-Garcia** gave birth to twins, Antonia and Francisco Garcia. They join big sister Andrea Nicole Garcia.



**Denise Salerno Panepinto's '92 children A.J. and Nicole Ann.**

1992

**Denise Salerno Panepinto** and husband John welcomed a daughter to the family. Nicole Ann Panepinto was born in November 2011. Nicole joins 8 year-old big brother A.J.



**Megan Callahan Sherman's '93 newborn twins Declan and Patrick.**

1993

**Megan Callahan Sherman** recently gave birth to twin boys Declan 5.8 lbs and Patrick 8.14 lbs. That makes five for Megan and her husband David. All are doing great.

1994

**Kelly Curtin McDow** and her husband Matt are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Tyler Patrick. He was born in December 2011 and joins big brother Zachary.

1997

**Clare Laracy Grubb** and her husband Dave welcomed their baby boy Peter Michael in March 2012. His sister Catherine (6), brother Thomas (4) and sister Anna (2) are thrilled with their new baby brother!

1999

**Beth Iorio** is planning her August wedding to her high school sweetheart from Saint Peter's Prep, Anthony P. Fesken.

2000

**Rachel Gonzalez Fabros** gave birth to her second daughter, Jiana Rae, in January 2012.

# ALUMNAE NEWS

2011

**Karina Curcio** completed her freshman year at Johnson and Wales University and is on the Dean's List.

**Myralisa Samedy** received The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Award from Fairleigh Dickinson

University in May of 2012.

**Vanessa Quiles** made the Dean's List for both semesters of her freshman year at The Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. Vanessa is a Communications Design major.

## A Message from the SDA Alumnae Association

Alumnae, we are 5000 strong! As we know, the world is ever changing and those changes affect each of us differently; as a group it affects education. The Saint Dominic Academy Alumnae Association has acknowledged the need to take a more active fundraising role assisting in offsetting operating costs at SDA.

Let's work together to ensure the current SDA students have the same memories friendships and experiences we each have had 20, 30, 50+ years from now!

'FRIEND' us SOCIALLY on FACEBOOK group page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SDAAlumnae/>

'CONNECT' with us PROFESSIONALLY on LinkedIn group page:  
<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Saint-Dominic-Academy-Alumnae-Association>.

'E-mail' us at [SaintDominicAcademyAlumnae@gmail.com](mailto:SaintDominicAcademyAlumnae@gmail.com)

COMING SOON  
<http://saintdominicacademyalumnae.m.webs.com>



**Staci A Zegler '83**  
President  
Saint Dominic Academy Alumnae Association



Need a bigger space than your home for a family party?

Call the SDA Business office at 201 434 5938 ext 36 or [sbuge@stdominicacad.com](mailto:sbuge@stdominicacad.com) for details on renting out the Elizabeth Ann (ELAN) auditorium for your next affair.

## Calling All SDA Lawyers!

Two Free CLE Credits on Ethics  
Saint Peter's University  
October 18, 2012, 5 – 7 p.m.  
McIntyre Lounge  
light reception to follow

For information contact  
Jenny Campbell  
at (201) 761-6112 or  
[jcampbell1@saintpeters.edu](mailto:jcampbell1@saintpeters.edu)

## ✠IN MEMORIAM✠

### ALUMNAE

*Kathleen Lillis Doyle '41*  
*Ellen Stratford Barbaro '44*  
*Bernice Bragen Anton '45*  
*Jean Zamorski Ulecker '48*

*Marie Cavaliere Reo '51*, mother of *Terese Reo Urban '77* and *Dawn Reo '80*

*Kathleen Krupinski DeCresce '56*, mother of *Maureen DeCresce-Ghosh '76* and sister of *Patricia Krupinski Whittaker '59*

*Julianna Gorzka Ponzek '53*, sister of *Barbara Gorzka Zajac '49* and *Helena Gorzka McBride '57*

*Evelyn Schmidt '59*, mother of *Tara Schmidt Knuefel '91*

### FAMILY

Frank Mullin, husband of *Alvina Flad Mullin '46*, brother of the late *Jeanne Mullin '46*

Judeann Giordano, daughter of *Isabel Dalli Giordano '57*

Jennie Cappello, mother of *Lena Cappello Bellapianta '58* and *Teresa Cappello Knight '62*

Christopher R. Morelli, son of *Margaret Moran Morelli '60*

Carmella Narcisi Barone, mother of *Christina Narcisi Brennan '60* and *Georgina Narcisi Vastola '63*

Marian Ivory, mother of *Sister Eileen Ivory '64*, *Susan Ivory '66* and *Kathy Ivory Jankowski '83*

Katherine Whitley, mother of the late *Sister Terry Puccio, O.P., '65*

Ann O'Connor, mother of *Elizabeth O'Connor Tomaszewski '69*

Mary Cucco, mother of *Anna Cucco '69*

Mary Richardson Kennedy, sister of *Anne Richardson '71*, *Joan Richardson '74*, *Martha Richardson '76* and *Eithne Richardson '80*

Constance Stretavski, mother of *Susan Stretavski '74* (dec'd), *Nancy Stretavski Skillender '76* and *Jean Stretavski Haughey '77*, sister of *Barbara Deveney Cherney '55*, aunt of *Judith Deveney Crincoli '87*

John Connell, father of *Mary Ellen Connell La Mendola '75*

Frank Rush, husband of Pat Rush (dec'd, former SDA teacher), father of *Eileen Rush '76*, *Maureen Rush '81*, *Kathleen Rush '81*, *Colleen Rush '82* and *Doreen Rush '86*

Joseph Milczarski, father of *Linda Milczarski Ward '78* and William Milczarski (former teacher and current SDA Trustee)

James Zaccaria, father of *Lorayne Zaccaria Castiglione '81*

Ruth Boitano, grandmother of *Dr. Carolyn Curtin Lalli '84*

James Boylan, father of *Karen Boylan, Esq., '87*

Frank De Bellis, father of *Nicole DeBellis Iglesias '90*

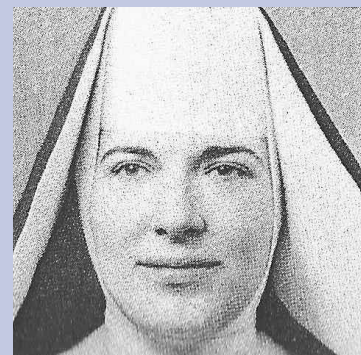
Maria Salapska, mother of *Dr. Joanna Salapska-Gelleri '93*

Joseph Watkins, father of *Liana Watkins '10*

Sister Susan McCaffery, O.P., former SDA teacher

Sister Edith Magdalen Visic, O.P., former SDA teacher

## Sister Edith Magdalen Memorial Project



Sister Edith Magdalen Visic, O.P., entered eternal life on May 25, 2012. Sister was a vibrant member of the SDA faculty from 1951-1963 who certainly cared for her students and made a considerable impact on the lives of hundreds of alumnae.

To honor Sister Edith Magdalen's life of service, a permanent piece of stained glass with the inscription: "Pray for and Remember with Joy, Sister Edith Magdalen, O.P." will be a part of the SDA chapel stained glass renovation project.

After more than 50 years, the windows, which were donated by the Mothers' Club in 1954, need to be repaired and restored at a cost of approximately \$25,000.

Please remember Sister Edith Magdalen with a gift to this project by using the enclosed envelope, by calling the Development Office at 201 434 5938 ext 42 or by donating online at [www.stdominicacad.com](http://www.stdominicacad.com).

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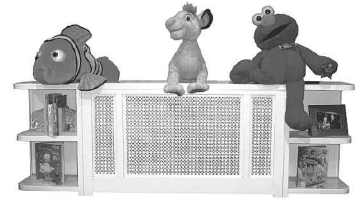
Lisa M. Doria-Cavuoto  
RN, BSN, MPA

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For more information, please contact the Advancement office at (201) 434-5938 ext. 42 or [advancement@stdominicacad.com](mailto:advancement@stdominicacad.com)

# SDA EVENT CALENDAR

- OCT 12** Beefsteak Dinner and Comedy Show, SDA
- OCT 20** SDA Florida Reunion, Ft Lauderdale, FL
- OCT 27** Discover Your Talents (Girls, 4-8th grades), SDA
- NOV 15** SDA Leadership Awards Gala, Nanina's in the Park, Belleville, NJ
- DEC 16** Christmas Concert, Saint Aloysius Church, Jersey City, NJ
- JAN 3** Homecoming 2005-2012, SDA
- JAN 12** Discover Your Talents (Girls, 4-8th grades), SDA
- MAR 16** 5K Spring Thaw, Liberty State Park, Jersey City, NJ
- APR 26-28** Alumnae Reunion Weekend, SDA
- APR 28** Spring Concert, Saint Aloysius Church, Jersey City, NJ

**FOR INFO ON THESE EVENTS, CONTACT CARMEN VEGA AT 201-434-5938 EXT. 33 OR [CVEGA@STDOMINICACAD.COM](mailto:cvega@stdominicacad.com)**

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