THE CLASS OF 2015

INSIDE:
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An Iron Man Hand
Reunion Weekend: A Record Breaking Success
There were many reasons to celebrate as Siena College closed out the 2014-15 academic year. Our president, Br. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., Ph.D., successfully guided the College during his first year at the helm. Under his leadership, enrollment for the upcoming fall semester is very healthy, fundraising records for a single year were smashed, a new vice president of academic affairs was introduced and unique academic opportunities were unveiled. Much of this success is a result of alumni and friends like yourself who care about Siena and its future. Whether it is recommending a prospective student to the school, offering internships, or donating to the Annual Fund, your assistance ensures Siena continues to flourish despite the choppy seas higher education is currently navigating.

I hope you enjoy our summer issue.

Go Saints,

Jim Eaton
Siena News Editor

Introducing The Paddock, opening Fall 2015, thanks to a gift from Don ’75 and Barbara Lucarelli. Located outside of Sarazen Student Union, the Paddock will feature a gas fire pit, barbecue, overhead lights, portable heaters, as well as new furniture, decking and landscaping.
Peace and every good.

I would like to thank all of you for welcoming me so graciously to the Siena community. My freshman year has been something of a whirlwind. As you might expect, a year of challenge and success, change and growth, and yes, even a few missteps that we learned from. It has been my privilege to work alongside so many passionate and determined individuals who are committed to the mission and the future of Siena College.

In a 13th century text titled the *Itinerarium* (1259), the Franciscan Bonaventure wrote about the “journey” of the human spirit; a journey which, for him, involved the education and formation of the whole person. It was a learning experience that included, among other things, the joining together of “knowledge with love (caritas)” and “personal effort with right relationship (pietas).” I have discovered the spirit of this approach to education is very much alive at Siena today.

Examples of these journeys can be found across campus. Students in the SAInT Center are involved in sophisticated research, hoping to make a real difference in the treatment of diseases. Outside of the classroom, this year’s popular “Mr. Siena” contest attracted over 800 students and raised both resources and awareness for Habitat for Humanity. This, in turn, helped make it possible for 65 students to participate in spring break service trips to the Carolinas. All inspiring.

Thank you, Saints. Thank you for your warm welcome and, more importantly, for showing me the spirit of Franciscan education is fully embraced at Siena.

Fraternally,

Br. F. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., Ph.D.

President
Class of 2015: ‘Go forth and serve’
By Steve Janack

“I firmly believe that we are going to excel at whatever we set out to do,” Meaghan Flatley assured fellow graduates of the Class of 2015 as she delivered the senior commencement address. “More importantly, we’ll hold the door.”

On a day that featured blue skies and summerlike temperatures, the importance of carrying forward the Franciscan tradition of service to others was a common theme as Siena College celebrated its 75th Commencement, with 830 graduates joined by thousands of family and friends on May 10 at the Times Union Center in Albany, N.Y.
“Certainly,” Flatley said, “graduates will work hard to turn the excellent education they received at Siena into successful careers. But they’ll also remain mindful of the lessons taught through the life of Saint Francis, which guided their volunteer efforts in soup kitchens, shelters and hospitals, and will characterize how they carry themselves in the professional world.”

With 791 students receiving Bachelor’s degrees and 39 awarded a Master of Science in Accounting, this year’s class included 347 graduates from the School of Business, 310 from the School of Liberal Arts, and 173 from the School of Science. Nearly one in three members of the Class of 2015 graduated with honors.

GE Chairman and CEO Jeffrey Immelt received an honorary degree and delivered the commencement address, joking that while other colleges had Stephen Colbert, Kenneth Cole or Matthew McConaughey as commencement speakers, “I can actually give you a job.”

In fact, some 350 Siena alumni work for GE worldwide, and the company has supported Siena by awarding hundreds of student internships and gifting more than $1 million through the GE Employee Matching Program, reflecting an equal amount of employee donations.

Urging graduates to “go forth and serve,” Immelt spoke of the
importance of having a purpose, learning and driving change, taking risks, and staying humble and optimistic. He also reminded graduates that there is much to be gained by seeing others succeed, which he noted was consistent with Siena’s commitment to service.

“Today, we need teamwork more than ever,” he said. “As much as the world changes, what doesn’t change is that work is ultimately about people.”

Immelt told graduates that though volatility is the new norm, no generation is better prepared for it – and that Siena grads in particular are ready to adapt to and drive change.

“Your Siena education – specifically, your liberal arts education – has prepared you to do this in ways you have yet to appreciate,” Immelt said.

Echoing the words of Saint Francis, Board of Trustees Chairman Howard Foote ’74 wished the graduates great success as they “begin again.”

“Know as you go forth in today’s world as the sons and daughters of Siena College, you individually and collectively personify our community by living the tradition,” Foote said.

Those words were not lost on Class of 2015 President Sarah Czelusniak.

“Siena has been like a second family to us,” Czelusniak said, “that wants nothing less than for us to follow our dreams and succeed.”
A group of Siena students made 5-year-old Jack Carder feel like a superhero. Members of the College’s chapter of the non-profit organization Enabling the Future traveled to Columbus, Ohio in April to personally deliver an Iron Man-themed prosthetic hand they designed and built for the boy.

“It was just an amazing experience and Jack is overjoyed,” said Laura Carder, Jack’s mother.
They presented the hand to “Iron Man Jack” in front of his pre-school classmates. Along with impressing his pals, Carder’s custom-built, 3D-printed prosthetic will give him greater function. Carder was born with a right hand that did not fully form, resulting in partial, non-usable fingers except for a semi-usable thumb. His red and gold hand is four-fingered, allowing him to continue to use his thumb.

“It basically just works on the actuation of the wrist. So as the wrist closes, the fingers close and as the wrist opens, the fingers open,” said Joey Fairley ’15, the physics major who launched e-NABLE Siena.

The delivery of Jack Carder’s hand made headlines across the country. It was featured on several major media outlets, including Good Morning America, CBS Sports, FOX Sports, Sports Illustrated and the New York Daily News.

Carder’s family refers to his hand as “little guy.” Now, thanks to the Iron-Man-inspired addition, his parents are expecting some big improvements.

“I think it’s going to give him a lot of confidence to be able to do whatever he wants, especially at school when it comes to writing and tying shoes, and all of the fine motor skills,” Laura Carder said.

While function came first, the team of 13 Siena students who built it also included fashion and flair into the hand’s design. They added glow-in-the-dark features and Carder’s favorite part, a palm laser, just like Iron Man’s.

“I like it,” said Jack Carder. “It lights up.”

Carder’s face lit up later in the day when he threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Columbus Clippers game. The Clippers are the Triple-A affiliate of his favorite Major League Baseball team, the Cleveland Indians.

“To see him throw out a pitch and get that experience, to get a jersey and get all this attention is just great for him,” said physics major Alyx Gleason ’17. She was part of the assembly and fabrication team.

The Siena volunteers spent almost two months designing and building the hand using the College’s 3D printers and Enabling the Future’s open-source designs, which allow volunteers to produce and donate customizable, cost-effective prosthetics to people in need. Carder’s hand cost approximately $50.

The students modified Enable’s designs to fit the measurements and dimensions of Carder’s hand. Then they produced the perfectly-sized pieces of his prosthetic.

“Working with Joey and everybody at Siena, they really just made us comfortable. There was always something else that they were working on to make it really, really meaningful for Jack,” said his father John Carder. “That really set us at ease and we knew that we had chosen the right people to do this for him.”

Fairley hopes to pursue a career in biomedical engineering with a focus on prosthetic device research and development. Helping people like Carder serves as his motivation to follow his passion for this career field.

“It just warms our hearts to know that we’re making a difference in this child’s life,” said Fairley.

This experience also made a difference in the lives of the students who worked on the project. Throughout the process, they developed technical skills, learned to use the emerging technology of 3D printing and saw the impact their effort had on this energetic little boy and his family.

The e-NABLE Siena team is now working on a prosthetic hand for a man in New Orleans and plans to help more people in the future, giving them a special power any superhero would be proud to possess.
New Scientific Instrumentation Lab Opens
By Ken Jubie ’04

The College has opened its brand new, cutting-edge scientific instrumentation lab known as the SAInT Center. The acronym “SAInT” stands for Stewart’s Advanced Instrumentation and Technology in recognition of the lead gift from the Dake Family and Stewart’s Shops. Their gift allowed for the construction of the state-of-the-art facility, located in the Morrell Science Center.

“Undergraduates at Siena will have the opportunity to use equipment that is usually in the domain of only graduate students, post-docs or medical school students,” said School of Science Dean Allan Weatherwax, Ph.D.

SAInT Center equipment has a myriad of applications, including bio-imaging, nanoscale microscopy, proteometrics and environmental analysis. Its instruments expose Siena students to the latest technology and will prepare them for careers in many emerging fields.

Lead donors William Dake and his wife, Siena College Trustee Susan Dake, hope their investment in the SAInT Center will yield a positive return in the form of jobs and graduate school opportunities for Siena students.

“The Center will close the gaps among theory, education and execution, and also increase the likelihood that all our graduates will get not just a job, but a meaningful job,” Susan Dake said. To reinforce their commitment to the SAInT Center’s mission, the Dakes announced an additional gift of $250,000.

Michael R. O’Leary ’74, M.D., Colleen E. O’Leary, M.D. and The George Alden Trust also provided generous support to help Siena College launch this impressive new instrumentation center.
Three Students Win Fulbright Awards
By Jim Eaton

For the first time in the College’s history, three students were awarded Fulbright Teaching Assistantships in the same academic year. Keva Luke ’14, Matt Schiesel ’15 and Jamie Desrosier ’15 were selected for this highly competitive program.

“This is a tremendous honor for a college our size and I couldn’t be more proud of the students,” said Br. Brian Belanger, O.F.M., Ph.D., director of the Center for International Programs.

Luke ’14, who graduated with a degree in Spanish, studied abroad in the Dominican Republic and Cuba. She is currently working as a North American language and culture assistant through the Ministry of Education in Spain. Her Fulbright will take her to Argentina where she will teach postsecondary classes.

Schiesel ’15, an English major, studied abroad in Glasgow, Scotland. His Fulbright will bring him to Poland where he will teach English and bring a piece of the American culture to his classroom.

Desrosier ’15, a political science major, studied abroad in Israel and Tanzania. Her Fulbright will bring her to Malaysia, where she will spend 12 months teaching English to local children.

Now that they have been through the year-long application odyssey they are ready for the real adventure to begin.

Going Global Without Leaving Campus
By Jenna Kersten ’17

For ten years, students from Siena College and Concordia University in Canada have gained a better understanding of what it means to be a global citizen by participating in the Siena-Concordia Globalization Conference.

This year’s conference offered students a variety of international perspectives on urban sustainability, migrants, the movement of people and gender issues at the annual Siena-Concordia Globalization Conference held on campus this spring.

The conference was largely planned, organized and executed by a committee of students pursuing a minor in International Studies at Siena. These students prepared for the task through the Introduction to International Studies course, where they looked at various facets of globalization by examining media, literature, politics and economics.
Students Create New Campus Sustainability Initiative
Regina Stracqualursi ’15

Students enrolled in Professor of Environmental Studies and Sciences Jean Mangun, Ph.D.’s course, “The Sustainable Campus Project” worked throughout an entire semester to develop an initiative that will help to expand Siena’s growing sustainability efforts.

Environmental studies and sciences majors Mary Claire Arnold ’14, Tyler Clausen ’15, Matt Porter ’15 and Michael Loschiavo ’15 developed an initiative that recognized the need for a compost system to reduce food waste on campus. Their plan targeted the food waste created by Roots Café, a student-run, sustainable lunch that features local, organic and fair trade meals.

“We decided to make a compost system that uses a rotating 55-gallon barrel instead of your traditional compost pile,” said Porter. “By rotating the barrel every other day more air is able to circulate through the compost pile, which in turn makes the waste decompose faster.”

Porter and his group won a $1,000 grant from the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute to construct the composter. “We can put our project in motion and hopefully see it grow in the hands of future environmental science majors,” said Loschiavo.

Research Presented Around the Globe During Spring Semester
By Jenna Kersten ’17 and Jim Eaton

Marketing majors Stephen Barretta ’16, Eugene Corcione ’15 and Daniel Buff ’15 presented their research at the Clute International Business Conference in Puerto Rico in March. Barretta was awarded the Best Paper Award in his track, beating out papers written by doctoral degree professionals.

Matt Bellis, Ph.D., assistant professor of physics and astronomy, attended the Graphics Processing Unit Tech Conference in San Jose, Cal. with Garrett Allen ’16 and Sal Baisley ’16. Siena was one of only three undergraduate institutions presenting research at the conference.

Political science major Alicia Munian ’15 used her experience with racial discrimination as the driving force behind her political science capstone research paper. She presented, “The Plight of Ethnic Minorities in Long Island Politics” at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Cheney, Wash.

Fellow political science major Matt Fuller ’15 discussed his research at the New York State Political Science Association Conference at SUNY Plattsburgh.

Left to right: Alicia Munian ’15, Sal Baisley ’16, Garrett Allen ’16 and Matt Bellis, Ph.D., assistant professor of physics and astronomy spent time on the west coast this semester presenting their research.
A First For Siena

By Julia Hess ’15

During her four years at Siena, Anna Youngmann ’15 has formed her passion for international humanitarian work into a career path. In May, she was the first student to graduate from Siena’s new Student Designed Interdisciplinary Major program, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in global gender studies.

Led by program director and professor of religious studies Lois Daly, Ph.D., the new major allows students with career goals outside of Siena’s traditional majors to determine their own courses of study.

Students approved for the program work closely with a faculty advisor to select coursework and design their majors around focused interests.

Youngmann made the most of Siena’s liberal arts education by experimenting with many courses of study, including psychology, social work and religious studies. With a specific career path in mind, she spent the early stages of her Siena years trying to decide which major would lead to her ultimate goal of working with an anti-human trafficking organization.

“I’ve always known that my plan was to do after-care for victims of human trafficking. I knew what I wanted to do, so I took social work classes on relationship violence and religious studies courses about Islam where I was able to talk about women’s issues. Lots of different majors had elements of what I was looking for, but nothing was exactly it,” Youngmann said.

Now students can pursue the career of their choice with this new opportunity at Siena.
Andrew Lang ’15 Combines Academics and Love of Baseball During Internship
By Jenna Kersten ’17

Andrew Lang ’15 is a Siena Saint who proves you don’t have to be a Division I athlete to pursue your passion for sports.

Lang played a curatorial role in the creation of a three-part exhibit on the history of baseball in the Capital Region through an internship at the Albany Institute of History and Art.

The exhibit titled “Triple Play: Baseball History” at the Albany Institute was on display from February 7 – July 26. Lang’s supervisor, AIHA Executive Director Tammis K. Groft, admired his excitement for the project.

“I was talking to him one day about the exhibit and his ears perked up. It became crystal clear that he knew more about baseball than I did,” she said.

Lang researched the history of baseball teams in the Capital Region by sifting through the artifacts, memorabilia and stories he could connect with the Institute’s exhibit.

“The key is creating that narrative,” Lang said. “It’s finding that core element of what each piece means to the community.” The end result was a home run.

William Shakespeare’s “Measure for Measure” was performed this spring by the Creative Arts Department and Stage III theater club.

The comedic drama was set in 17th century Vienna where the duke pretends to leave town but instead disguised himself as a friar to see what will happen in his absence.
Computer Science Major Secures Competitive Google Internship
By Regina Stracqualursi ’15

Computer science major Lucy Mathis ’17 has become the first Siena student to receive an internship at Google.

Mathis was given a scholarship to participate in the annual Grace Hopper Celebration in California, a conference for women technologists where she met with some of Google’s recruiters. She was contacted by them shortly thereafter for a series of interviews, which led to the offer of an internship.

Mathis will spend 12 weeks at Google’s headquarters in San Francisco this summer. She is one of only 15 undergraduate students in the United States selected to participate in the company’s summer Information Technology Internship Program.

Although she must keep her duties confidential, Mathis knows that she will be working actively within the company to learn more about the field of computer science.

“I couldn’t have gotten to this point without the help of the Computer Science Department here at Siena College, as well as having Dr. MaryAnne Egan and my mother as role models,” said Mathis. “Hopefully one day I can have the same influence on the next generation of young computer scientists.”

Travel and Tourism Class Presents Work to Sharks
By Julia Hess ’15

Kevin Jack, lecturer in economics, had his Travel and Tourism class end its semester with a “Shark Tank”-inspired event, where his students presented their final projects to a panel of local tourism professionals. Like the popular television show, the panel was organized to find the best business plans.

Groups were challenged to determine the best practices of promoting convention center space by examining marketing materials from other U.S. destinations.

“There is panel of “sharks” really made sure that each team truly knew as much about their convention centers and cities as possible in order to answer any questions that were asked,” explained actuarial science major Michele Panicucci ’15.

Jack’s class challenged Panicucci to consider the deeper meaning that her personal travel has on the world of tourism.
Student Research Changes History
By Julia Hess ’15

When Jennifer Dorsey, Ph.D., assigned her American Revolution class a research project, she never imagined that it would make history. The group traveled to the New York State Library’s special collections unit to look at the papers in the manuscript of American Revolution General and United States Senator Philip Schuyler. Here, they aimed to learn how to transcribe and annotate letters written in the eighteenth century.

With the help of New York State librarian Vicki Weiss, the group uncovered the original use of the word “savagize,” which was used for the first time in print by Schuyler in these manuscripts, written in 1794. This realization resulted in an update to the Oxford English Dictionary, where the word was previously thought to have been used first in 1817.

“The transcribing process was tedious and difficult, but ultimately rewarding. The project allowed me to dive deeper into New York State and revolutionary history. Knowing that our work in the archives has made us part of a historical change is incredibly fulfilling, and affirms that Siena students can help make history,” said history major Elizabeth Marsh ’16.

New Dining Service Bringing Changes to Campus
By Julia Hess ’15

Starting June 1 Siena welcomed a new dining service to campus; AVI Foodsystems, Inc. They are America’s largest, independently-owned and operated food and hospitality provider. The company’s new initiative, Siena Fresh, will blend both old and new aspects of the Siena dining experience. It is the College’s first new dining service in 37 years.

“We’re all about trying to provide the community with what they are looking for,” AVI Marketing Manager Amanda Fishbaugh said. “If we can make it fresh, we are going to.” Siena Fresh will focus on providing the best quality fresh food to the Siena community.

“You will never see bottled dressings on the salad bar. They will all be made in house along with our bakery items and pasta sauces. If we can make it, we will make it,” Fishbaugh said.

She assures that Siena Fresh will be focusing on the student body’s feedback in order to tailor the dining experience to the Siena community. This includes bringing back familiar dining aspects such as the food truck, fair trade ingredients and Limmy, the popular omelet chef. Students will have the ability to voice their opinions in the dining halls, as well as through social media platforms.

On top of retaining popular aspects, Siena Fresh will also bring many changes to the Siena dining locations. In the Lonnstrom Dining hall, students will see a bistro location added to the lower level. Here, a wood-fired pizza station will be open to students late at night. Lonnstrom will also house Clarity, an allergen-free station where students can eat food that is entirely free of the eight major allergens. Massry Commons will introduce a Sunday brunch option, which will include a crepe station.

The adjoined C-Store will remain a small convenience shop, but will be the home of Flatz, a flatbread sandwich store. While Casey’s will continue to serve grilled sandwiches and wraps, it will now include a Starbucks. Here, the full Starbucks drink menu will be offered along with Siena Fresh’s home-made pastries. In addition, during the designated dinner hours, students will be able to use their meal card to purchase food in Casey’s as opposed to using their bonus bucks.
Alumni Inspire Students to Pursue Career Goals

The annual Student Conference in Business welcomed back to campus Bob Bladel ’80, senior vice president of sales operations and strategy at Monster.com. During his keynote address, Bladel spoke of the importance of staying loyal to a company while growing and gaining new work experiences.

This year’s Lewis Golub Executive Lecture featured Kate Strang Gutmann ’90, UPS senior vice president of worldwide sales and solutions. She delivered an engaging speech titled, “The Business of Ethics: Why We Need a New Ethical Framework,” to a standing-room only crowd in the Sarazen Student Union.

The School of Business Lecture Series brought Mike Elliott ’87 and John Burke ’94 back to share career advice with business students.

Burke, owner of VISTACO and partner in two other companies, Continuum Commercial Realty and Select Referrals, emphasized the importance of chasing entrepreneurial dreams and dealing with the challenges that come with them.

Elliott, jetBlue executive vice president of the people department, encouraged students to take advantage of the opportunities Siena has to offer and find ways to stand out.

“The things that you experience here make you who you are,” he said.
On a Mission
By Jason Rich ’98

Erin Bies ’16 and Taylor Booth ’15 have accomplished plenty as student athletes at Siena.
Bies carries a 3.51 GPA in social work and played a big role in the Saints’ 2014 MAAC volleyball championship. Serving, it turns out, is what she does best.
Booth graduated in May with a 3.60 GPA in sociology and was the MAAC Goalkeeper of the Year in soccer. She’s always looking for her next potential save.

These young women excel in other areas of their lives too. Bies and Booth each wrapped up the 2014-15 academic year with a five-week internship at the Botshabelo orphanage in South Africa. The internship began at 5 a.m. each morning and ran until 9 p.m. when they would co-teach sexual education and empowerment lessons to African children. They created a sustainable garden and assisted in classroom lessons each morning. There was a 30-minute block each day allocated to sports and activities, and weekends could be spent visiting lion and rhinoceros sanctuaries or at the area prison. Three hours were set aside each day for Bies and Booth to work on their personal projects. Bies pursued an ancestral lineage idea to help connect children to their families, and Booth’s focus was personal empowerment.

This was the fourth service trip Bies has made to Africa as a Siena student. She has done most of her work in orphanages, but also volunteered with local hospice organizations and helped facilitate a volleyball camp for orphans.

“After going there and growing such strong connections it makes you feel really good about the impact you’ve had on their lives,” Bies said.

Booth has been just as devoted to helping others, completing more than 600 hours of service as a member of AmeriCorps’ Community Corps program run through Siena’s Academic Community Engagement office.

The Magnificent Seven
By Mike Demos

The Siena’s women’s basketball team competed with a roster of just seven players for the final 30 games of the 2014-15 season. Injuries, redshirts and NCAA transfer regulations tested the team’s physical and mental makeup from the start.
“Those setbacks were pivotal for us,” said Ali Jaques, women’s basketball head coach. “We realized if we could overcome these losses, we’d be better off in the long run.”

The Saints persevered to enjoy perhaps the most improbable season in the program’s more than four decades-long history, advancing all the way to the finals of the Women’s Basketball Invitational (WBI).

They won 22 games in achieving the program’s first winning season in 11 years. The unlikely 13-win improvement tied for the second-
Overcoming All Odds
By Mike Demos

A torn ACL. An emergency appendectomy. Cancer. Shannon O’Connor ’15 of women’s lacrosse faced a lifetime of adversity over her four years at Siena.

She had her freshman season cut short following an emergency appendectomy. Two weeks later, during a routine post-surgical visit, her world was turned upside down.

Doctors told her they found a carcinoid tumor: a slow-growing cancer that might not have been otherwise detected if not for her ordeal with appendicitis. As a precaution, a large portion of her colon was removed.

On the road to recovery and cleared to resume activities, O’Connor tore her ACL during the Saints’ annual alumni game. She missed her entire sophomore season and was limited by the injury throughout her junior year as well.

O’Connor was determined to return for her senior season and make the most of her final chance of playing the game she loves.

“The toughest part was realizing that it wasn’t going to be the college career I had hoped for,” she said. “But it had always been a goal for me to play college lacrosse, especially at Siena. I had a lot of help from my family and friends to keep me on track to do whatever it took to get back on the field.”

Her perseverance paid off.

After appearing in just eight games and tallying only one point over her first three tumultuous seasons, she was able to stay healthy and make a major impact during her senior season.

O’Connor started all 18 of the Saints’ games this year, and scored 30 points, including 26 goals. Her unexpected contributions fueled a reenergized women’s lacrosse program, which won 10 games, doubling its win total from the previous year and marking the second most victories in the program’s 19 seasons.

“This season was definitely rewarding and made all the hard work worth it,” she said. “I’m glad the obstacles I faced didn’t stop me and that I was able to be a part of a turning point in the program.”
Madden Named VP for Academic Affairs

Since 2002, Madden has served as provost and vice president for academic affairs at the State University of New York at Potsdam, overseeing approximately 260 full-time faculty, 4,400 full-time students and an academic affairs budget of more than $30 million.

With a focus on strengthening academic programs and promoting student success, Madden completed SUNY Potsdam’s first-ever Academic Master Plan. She led an initiative to secure a $1.6 million Title III grant to support undergraduate research and helped secure a half-million dollar donation for an endowed fund to support undergraduate students working with faculty on research; oversaw the development and approval of several new interdisciplinary major programs, an expansion of online courses, and review and revisions of every academic and teacher certification program on campus; facilitated a highly successful Middle States accreditation visit that resulted in 26 commendations; and led development of the SUNY Institute for Arts, Sciences and Technology, a joint venture with SUNY Canton. She was also a tenured professor of psychology.

Margaret E. Madden, Ph.D., has been appointed vice president for academic affairs at Siena College. With a distinguished career in higher education that spans more than three decades as a faculty member and administrator at private and public colleges and universities, Madden succeeds Linda Richardson, Ph.D., who will retire in August after 12 years as Siena’s top academic administrator.

Sarah Berke, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology, obtained a $99,345 grant that is part of a larger research grant to the Dauphin Island Sea Lab from the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative. Titled “Alabama Center for Ecological Resistance,” it will evaluate the resiliency of the Gulf of Mexico ecosystem in recovering from the Deepwater Horizon spill of more than 200 million gallons of oil in July 2010. Berke’s research will focus on the impacts of the spill on benthic macroinfauna and involve several Siena students as undergraduate researchers. This work will help show how ecosystems respond to major disturbances such as oil spills, not only in the short term, but also in the years and decades following the event.

Raymond Boisvert, Ph.D., professor of philosophy, wrote a book titled “John Dewey, Rethinking Our Time.” It is based on the American philosopher best known as an educational reformer. Dewey has also had a profound influence on the Japanese culture as he lectured in the country numerous times during the early 1900s. After the book was written, a Japanese translator contacted Boisvert about translating the book into Japanese. With the translation, he hopes he can now enter into a dialogue with Japanese thinkers on democratic education.

Raj Devasagayam, Ph.D., professor of marketing, has been appointed the new director for the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity. He will lead faculty and students in this signature program, which supports research and scholarship opportunities for students across all disciplines. Devasagayam was the Douglas T. Hickey Professor in Business from 2012-2014 at Siena. He also received the Jerome Walton Excellence in Teaching award from Siena in 2007.

“I would like to achieve balance. Much like other national undergraduate research, Siena’s research has been led by science. I would like for that to continue to grow, but I would ultimately like to achieve a balance in terms of different schools being represented in our undergraduate research,” Devasagayam said.

Maryellen Gilroy, Ed.D., vice president of student life, is one of the authors for a book chapter in

Fr. Kenneth Paulli ‘82 O.F.M., Ph.D., vice president, also has a chapter in volume two titled, “The Mission Officer and the Office of Alumni Relations.” Both books were published by the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities.

Mathew Johnson ’93, Ph.D., and the Office of Academic and Community Engagement obtained a $20,000 grant from the Review Foundation to develop a Community Policy Institute. Through the Institute, advanced policy students will work with the political science faculty to provide the local nonprofit community with timely, curated, indexed policy news and updates relevant to the challenges faced by nonprofits in the Capital Region. Once the capacity and infrastructure is in place, the Community Policy fellows will begin producing policy briefs focused on those challenges and the program will expand to include faculty from other departments of the College.

Kate Meierdiercks, Ph.D., assistant professor of environmental studies and sciences, obtained a $14,896 grant from the New York State Water Resources Institute. Through this grant, Meierdiercks will study the processes that control stormwater runoff in the Kromma Kill watershed, particularly those associated with urban infrastructure and drainage systems. The research will assess the effectiveness of various storm water management strategies, including green infrastructure, improving water quality and reducing flooding. This work will be conducted with the help of a Siena research student.

John Moustakas, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, was awarded a $12,690 grant from NASA and the Space Telescope Science Institute. He will analyze Hubble space telescope observations of a sample of rare, distant, ultra-compact galaxies, which may be the missing link for understanding the formation of the largest galaxies found in the nearby universe. Moustakas is using these observations and the High-Performance Computing Center to help understand these mysterious galaxies. This work was recently featured in an article in Nature magazine. Siena students will continue to be involved in this research.

Gregory Skochko, lecturer in Creative Arts, received a 2014 New York Foundation for the Arts Artist Fellowship. The fellowship is in the category of crafts/sculpture. Skochko teaches one of Siena’s basic design sections and brings a wealth of experience to the classroom. “I am thrilled to have been chosen as a fellowship recipient in sculpture. It is an honor to be recognized by a jury of my fellow New York State artists for the work I am so excited to be making. The award will allow me to continue with current projects, and to explore materials and ideas that I could only dream of before,” he said. Only two percent of the applicants received a fellowship this year.

2014 - 2015 Faculty and Administrator Award Recipients

The Fr. Jerome Walton Award for Excellence in Teaching - Dr. Lois Daly, professor of religious studies

The Raymond Kennedy Award for Excellence in Scholarship - Dr. Robin Flatland, professor of computer science

The Fr. Matthew T. Conlin, O.F.M. Award for Distinguished Service - Dr. James Booker, professor of economics

The James Knust Award for Excellence in Administration - Dr. Lee Allard, director of institutional research

The awards were presented on Saturday, April 25 at the annual Faculty and Administrators Dinner.
Siena College welcomed alumni back to campus with 16 events during the weekend of June 5 – 7, 2015. Some highlights included a Paint and Sip, Alumni Golf Tournament at Briar Creek, President’s Brunch and Distinguished Alumni Awards, class parties, a dedication of Dominica’s (game room located in Casey’s which is inside the Sarazen Student Union) and the Class of 2005 dedication of the St. Bernardine statue at The Grotto.
Mass at the Grotto

Bishop Edward Scharfenberger presided at a Mass and consecrated the altar at the Grotto on campus on June 7, 2015.
A Reason to Celebrate

The 2015 fiscal year ended on May 31, 2015 with $55 million dollars raised topping a $50 million goal for the Comprehensive Campaign. Siena also received $9 million in cash which is the highest amount ever raised in a single year.

Notables

The Class of 1985 had the most donors and reunion attendees.

The Class of 1965 had a record attendance for a 50th reunion dinner with 50 attendees.

Tom Huerter ’91, Mike Frantangelo ’91, John Bocketti ’91 and Mike Zurlo ’92 captured the golf tournament championship.

Chuck Harris ’65 had the longest drive at the golf tournament.
Distinguished Alumni Awards Recipients:

- **Fr. Dennis Tamburello ’75, O.F.M., Ph.D.** - The Reverend Benjamin Kuhn, O.F.M. Award for service to the Siena Community.

- **Joseph Marotta ’80, M.D. and Richard Becker ’85** - The Professor Egon Plager Award for accomplishments in advancing the welfare of other human beings.

- **Kate Strang Gutmann ’90** - The Professor Joseph A. Buff Award for alumni with Outstanding Career Achievement.

- **Breanne Suhrland Elsesser ’05 and Andrew Krakat ’05** - The Franciscan Spirit Award for young alumni who demonstrate commitment to service to both Siena and their community, while excelling in their chosen careers.

Left to right: Fr. Dennis Tamburello ’75, Andrew Krakat ’05, Joseph Marotta ’80, Br. Ed Coughlin, Ph.D., Rich Becker ’85 and Kate Strang Gutmann ’90.

Top Of The Class

The following classes raised the most dollars this year:

1980 - $317,438.28
1975 - $259,319.85
1985 - $227,599.73
Siena College said goodbye to a beloved member of its community, Fr. Capistran Hanlon, O.F.M. who passed away on Feb. 5, 2015. “Fr. Cap,” as he was known, was a professed Franciscan friar for 60 years and a priest for 54 years.

In 1961, Hanlon became an instructor in the sociology department at Siena College. After teaching there for four years, he studied anthropology at the University of Colorado in Boulder, earning his master’s and doctorate in that subject. In 1971, he returned to Siena, where he continued teaching in the sociology and social work department for the next 37 years. Hanlon was the first professor to receive an endowed chair at the College, the Kiskis Chair.

His former students remember his classes well. “I had him for many a class as a social work major. He had a unique and memorable point of view and style of teaching,” said Mary Lynne Branagh Hamilton.

Hanlon retired in 2008 and since he still lived on campus in the friary, he was able to reconnect with many alumni. “I had an opportunity to reconnect with him at a recent reunion. I was so glad to be able to share with him that his classes stayed with me all these years,” said Patty DeBeauvernet Windover ’85.

While at Siena, Capistran was involved with several programs in the local community including weekend ministry at St. Mary’s Church in Albany and volunteering as a chaplain with the local law enforcement community, as well as the Albany Division #5 and the Albany County AOH Board. Capistran was also an accomplished photographer. His work was exhibited at the Yates Gallery at Siena.

“We give thanks for the service he gave not only to the College but also to many local groups and organizations,” said Siena College President Br. F. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., Ph.D. “We cherish his memory and are encouraged by his example of what it means to be a friar-educator.”

Fr. Martin Hanhauser, O.F.M., 98, a professed Franciscan friar for 77 years and a priest for 72, died in August 2014 at the Holy Name Friary. He was the oldest friar in the Province at the time of his death.

He spent 40 years of his ministry in higher education. He was a professor and head of the mathematics department at Siena from 1845 until 1982. He also served as chairman of the science division at Siena from 1963 to 1966.

Fr. Martin is remembered as having a truly unique style of teaching. “When a student solved a particularly tough problem or designed a particularly elegant solution, his eyes would go wide and he’d say something like ‘Oooh! That’s dandy!’” said Paul Mullen ’77.

He was also known for correcting exams and assignments by pepper them with comments (sometimes in French), exclamation points and praise when deserved.

“It was in this class that I developed the habit of ending all of my proofs (as Fr. Martin did) with the initials (Q.E.D.) which, as any of his students would know, means quod erat demonstrandum or ‘that which had to be proven.’ I still use that notation to this day,” said Mullen.

Alumni often kept in touch with Fr. Martin, usually through letters written on the back of a mathematics proof or a logic puzzle that he wanted to share.

“I can’t say that I was always able to follow those proofs or solve any of those puzzles,” Mullen said. “As a mathematician, I couldn’t hold a candle to Fr. Martin.”

A scholarship has been set up at Siena College for each beloved friar. If you would like to make a contribution to the Fr. Hanlon or Fr. Hanhauser scholarships please visit siena.edu/scholarship or call 518-783-2432.
The following is a list of scholarships and endowed funds that were established from November 24, 2014 - May 31, 2015 through the generosity of alumni and friends of Siena College. A minimum gift of $30,000, payable over five years, is required to name a scholarship at Siena.

The Christopher ’89 and Lisa (Gill) ’90 Alfieri Scholarship
The Chenette Family Scholarship
The Moran/Corcoran Family Scholarship
The Robert Chersi and Rosemary Shiavo ’83 Chersi Family Scholarship
The Fr. Julian A. Davies, O.F.M. Scholarship
The Joseph Farone, Jr. NHS Scholarship
The Jean P. Reamer Keam ’76 Scholarship
The Robert V. ’58 & Lorraine Oechslin Scholarship
The Rose and Carmine Perrotta Scholarship
The Kenneth and Rachel Sheffer Scholarship
The Sheehan Family Scholarship
Rockin’ Christmas Scholarship
The Mark P. Woroby ’81 Memorial Scholarship

“Your scholarship has allowed me to have the greatest experience of my life in coming to Siena College.”

- Michael P. Baker ’15

Siena Hopes to Close Capital Campaign with 100 New Endowed Scholarships

At the April Scholarship Appreciation Dinner, Vice President for Development and External Affairs, David Smith ’79, recognized the outstanding fundraising success thus far and announced a new goal for the final year.

Living Our Tradition: The Campaign for Siena College, launched in 2011, is a 5 year-$50 million campaign with several major initiatives, one of which is raising endowed scholarship dollars for Siena students.

The original campaign goal was $10 million. To date donors have given nearly $14 million and endowed 60 NEW scholarships over the last four years.

As a result a revised endowed scholarship goal was established for the last year of the campaign. Siena hopes to raise 40 new scholarships, which will bring the endowed scholarship total to $15 million.

For more information or to begin a conversation with a Siena development professional on endowing a scholarship, please email campaign@siena.edu or call 518-783-2432 to get the process started.
Caroline Cleveland ’09 was 13 when she was drawn to serve her country after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. But eight years later, instead of serving in the Middle East, she found herself in Germany as a military police platoon leader, training with foreign police officers and performing ceremonial duties.

So, in 2010, when the U.S. Army was soliciting women candidates to assist U.S. Special Operations forces in Afghanistan, she knew there was no looking back.

Above: Caroline Cleveland ’09 as 1st Lt. (right) alongside Staff Sgt. Kat Kaelin in Afghanistan. They were members of the first Cultural Support Team, a group of women soldiers embedded with the 75th Ranger Regiment.
“This was a big part of my calling,” said Cleveland, who served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army. “I was determined to get in the program. I prepped all of my paperwork as if I wasn’t coming back (to Germany), not realizing the full magnitude of what I was getting into. It was surreal that I made it. I just did the very best that I could.”

Cleveland was part of the first Cultural Support Team (CST), a group of 20 elite women soldiers embedded with the 75th Ranger Regiment in the rural deserts and mountains of Afghanistan.

Candidates were assessed at Fort Bragg, N.C., during 100 hours of intense physical training that included buddy carries, long marches in scorching temperatures in full gear, and 30-foot wall climbs. Those selected went on to learn about the regional Afghan culture, basic Pashto language skills, advanced rifle marksmanship and hand-to-hand combat.

The CST is the subject of a new book, Ashley’s War: The Untold Story of a Team of Women Soldiers on the Special Ops Battlefield (HarperCollins, April 2015), by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon. The book is centered around 1st Lt. Ashley White Stumpf, who in 2011 was the first CST member killed, when an improvised explosive device (IED) was detonated. A second member, Jenny Moreno, died in a similar situation two years later in 2013.

“Jenny was a nurse by trade, rendering first aid to fallen Rangers, when the IED exploded, and we want to honor her as well,” said Cleveland, who was deployed to Afghanistan from 2011-12.

“This is an incredible group of women who served at the tip of the spear while the combat ban officially remained in place. For this team of incredible women, none of that mattered — it was about doing a mission that mattered at the heart of the war alongside the best of the best,” Lemmon said. The military’s ban on women in combat was officially lifted in 2013.

The CST program was established as a way to communicate with Afghan women. Since these women are largely segregated from men, U.S. military men had no culturally appropriate way to collect information from them. Yet, the potential information that these women had to offer could not be underestimated.

“They run the household. They know who came for dinner,” Cleveland said. “They are very connected to their sisters and cousins, and know what’s going on in other houses and villages.”

The CST’s main responsibility was to guide women and children to safety, gain their trust and gather information while the Rangers rooted out insurgents from the family compounds.

To do their job, these military women, who worked in pairs, entered combat zones alongside the Rangers, hiking across rugged mountains and climbing compound walls, with the threat of being in direct line of fire.

Afghan woman themselves could pose threats. On her first mission, Cleveland and her partner Staff Sgt. Laurel Holl gathered 12 women and children outside a compound as it was being searched. The Afghan women took blankets with them to sit on. After taking the last woman aside to search her and ask questions, Cleveland found a loaded pistol under a blanket.

Still, Cleveland felt a bond with many of the Afghan women she encountered.

“They could have been my mother, daughter, sister in another time and place,” Cleveland said.

Cleveland started her military career in the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROT) at Siena College. Her original goal was to apply to West Point. But her father, Albert Cleveland ’77, encouraged her to apply to Siena’s ROT program, which is much closer to her family’s East Greenbush home.

“I was lucky to get into Siena’s ROT program,” said Cleveland, who was promoted to captain during her four years of active duty, and is now pursuing a career in North Carolina as a physical therapist. “I’m grateful for the ROTC faculty and my fellow cadets who helped build my foundation during my formative years. They believed in me and taught me to believe in myself.”
A Foundation of Values: Tim Hassett ’86
By Jodi Ackerman Frank

Tim Hassett ’86 landed the type of job for which he earned his marketing and management degree, just as he was graduating from Siena. It was a sales position in the food and beverage division of Procter & Gamble, one of the big blue-chip companies that recruited students on campus.

But more than the education he received to jumpstart his career, Hassett said that Siena gave him a foundation of values, which led him to become the successful person he is today.

“The technical learning was, of course, helpful. But I also benefited from the values, the character and the culture of Siena,” said Hassett, president of Beam Suntory’s American business. Beam Suntory is one of the world’s leading spirits companies.

“The essence of inspiring and engaging all the members of your team comes down to valuing each one of them as humans and respecting their diversity, and then leveraging all of that diversity into winning solutions for the marketplace,” he added.

Hassett, raised from humble roots in a blue-collar community of South Buffalo, N.Y., attended a Franciscan high school. He wanted to go to Siena College, but he knew he wouldn’t be able to do that on his own.

“Siena was always an aspirational school for me, but one that my family could not afford,” said Hassett. “I was fortunate enough to receive an academic scholarship to attend Siena, which opened a lot of doors for me, including the friends who have grown into lifelong relationships.”

Hassett has spent more than 25 years in various sales and marketing roles with consumer product companies such as Procter & Gamble, Kellogg’s and Campbell’s before joining Beam Suntory in 2014. As a driver of development, he encourages diversity of experiences.

“Be the first to raise your hand for new and different experiences – it’ll make you a more well-rounded leader,” Hassett said.

To Siena students just starting out their careers, he has this advice to offer: “You can’t underestimate the power of values, respect for all individuals, a strong work ethic and a healthy aspiration to succeed,” he said. “Siena is responsible for shaping a lot of that early in my life.”
Leaving A Legacy

When Gene Zielinski ’62 arrived at Siena College in September of 1958, he knew he had received a great preparatory education at Christian Brothers Academy in Albany. That combined with the distinctive education he would receive at Siena would give him the tools to excel in his business and in life.

“Siena educates the whole person, which is at the heart of a Franciscan education,” Gene said.

Lynn Zielinski, Gene’s wife, had a 34-year career as a teacher and understands the value of an education.

“Many of our lifelong friendships have their roots at Siena College and CBA. Given our commitment to the value of both of these institutions, we wanted to leave a legacy at Siena that would make this same opportunity available to future students.”

To do this, Gene and Lynn made a legacy gift to Siena College which included creating a scholarship to be awarded to students attending Siena who are also graduates of CBA.

“We are all stewards of the gifts we have been given,” Gene said. “We feel very good knowing generations of students, many of whom we will never get to meet, will be able to receive the same educational opportunities that we were given.”

If you would like to learn more about creating your Legacy at Siena College, please contact Director of Gift Planning, Jack Sise ’75, Esq. at jsise@siena.edu or at 518-783-2315 for a confidential conversation.
The United States Army Sergeants Major Academy recognized the singular and cumulative achievements of Joseph Ostrowidzki, who made significant contributions to the Academy and the Noncommissioned Officer Education System in a ceremony held January 5, 2015 in the Academy’s Cooper Lecture Center.

“Those selected for the hall of honor are rare individuals who over the course of their career have had a significant, lasting and positive impact on the training, education and development of NCOs. Joseph, who we induct today, is a perfect example of that,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Defreese, USASMA.

Ostrowidzki said, “It is needless to say that it is a very humbling experience for someone who as a small boy spent two years in a Russian war camp; two years as a refugee in Iran; four in Tanzania and Africa; and three in England before immigrating to the United States. Five years to the date of my arrival I became an American citizen and four years later an American soldier.”

Thank you Joseph for your service. A true Son of Siena!

Kevin Raymond continued to try to get used to retirement. Kevin retired in 2014 after back surgery. He and Patricia visit their children and grandchildren in Fredericksburg and Raleigh several times a year, and look forward to a trip to Disney in October. He volunteers in social services in Prince William County, Virginia and in his home parish in Dale City, Virginia.

Dick Holmes wrote in. After a career in education, including serving as principal of an Albany area high school, Dick has earned a well-deserved winter home in Venice, Florida. Dick writes freelance articles for local newspapers such as the Albany Times Union, the Albany diocesan weekly, The Evangelist and the Venice Gondolier-Sun. At the same time, he conducts monthly writing seminars for residents of his condominium community in Florida, where he also has been Triano Condominium Association board of directors president for the past five years.

Bob Jordan attended our 50th anniversary celebration in 2013. After 33 years of service, Bob retired from the U.S. Army in 2002 as a major general. Bob continues to work part-time at a wound clinic at Albany Memorial Hospital. He participates in the local medical society as its treasurer and former president. Bob is a member of three hospital staffs in Albany and is actively involved in the Fort Orange Club and the Albany Country Club.

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1967

Rick Spataro
rpsataro67@gmail.com
1968
Jim Donsbach
jamesdonsbach@gmail.com

1969
Ken Dedrick
Ken.dedrick@carolina.rr.com

Jack Cashill notes that his 10th nonfiction book was published in August. It can be viewed on the Barnes & Noble website.

Joe Heroux worked for GE for 25 years and now works for Coca-Cola outside Atlanta in their IT division. Joe and wife Elaine have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Bob Ishkanian retired from Verizon in 2012. Bob says he never left Troy. He has two adult daughters. Bob is an avid Siena basketball fan and enjoys OTB.

Guy Rotella recently retired from Northeastern University in Boston where he was a professor of English. Guy published several books during his career. He received the University Excellence in Teaching Award and Boston College Distinguished Alumni Award. Guy lives in Belmont, Mass.

1970
Paul Twardy
twardy.paul.f@gmail.com

Our Reunion Class Committee: Dan Barrett, John Glyn, Denis Maiorani, Ritt Schiano and Paul Twardy did what we could to rally classmates to our 45th. Other life commitments and the apparent determination to attend our 50th meant this year’s gathering was small but lively, to say the least.

Mike Shine drove in from New Jersey, as did John T. Kelley and his wife, Anne Marie; Denis was here with his wife, Lynn, from Vermont; Jack Webster drove from Illinois with wife Denise; while Bob Hermann and wife Marcia got out of Delmar and into the party mood we all enjoyed Friday night. Early on we were adopted by Fr. Mark Reamer, O.F.M., guardian of the friary, a welcome guest.

On Saturday we self-toured the campus and met several terrific students who gave us their insights into life at Siena today, and welcomed us into some buildings. Plenty to see and learn.

Saturday night’s dinner saw highlights including the beautiful setting of Serra Manor which we shared with the Class of ’80. But the most personal highlight was our committee’s presentation of the Class of 1970 Class Spirit Testimonial to Bob “Luke” Hermann. It was based on the heartfelt observations of fellow classmates and his Sports Hall of Fame status and the fact that Bob has attended every class reunion. President of Siena, Br. F. Edward Coughlin, O.F.M., Ph.D. (a grammar and high school classmate of Jack) handed off the printed and framed document. We presented Br. Coughlin with our Reunion class gift. Everyone joined in singing the alma mater.

It was a very late night, but some of us were on hand for the beautiful dedication of the grotto Sunday morning. There truly was “something happening here…” again.

In other news, our class boasts the achievements of two authors. Daniel J. Barrett has recently launched his fifth book entitled Can’t Sing or Dance. It follows on the heels of Conch Town Girl.

Meanwhile, Alan M. Petrillo launched Asylum Lane, first in a series featuring Victorian and Edwardian detectives. He won the Writer’s Post Journal’s Best Short Story of the year in 2005 for Burn Unit. He’s a journalist and author of several other books. We remember him best as editor-in-chief of Siena’s Indian.

Keep us posted. The reunion class committee is here to help. All the best!

1971
Nicholas Positano
njpositano@hotmail.com

1972
Jack Callahan
Jackcallahan33@gmail.com

1973
Brian Valentine
bgvalentine@verizon.net

Greetings to all of the Siena College community and friends. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer, and I hope many of you had the opportunity to attend Reunion 2015.


John is also the author of Perish Island, a chronicle of the brutal training that nearly destroyed the U.S. Marine Corps and, Annie, a novel — a haunting story of ill-fated love set in Saratoga Springs, Lake George and Vermont. John also recently wrote and published Old Warriors II, the story of magical figures he collected as a child, in Antique Toy World, an international publication with a readership of 20,000. John has also been published in Skin Diver magazine and other national publications. John is available for workshops, writing assignments and lectures and once shared the lecture podium with adventure author Clive Cussler. Contact John at jpenzer@nycap.rr.com.

Our classmate David Stack, the president and CEO of Pacira Pharmaceuticals, was recently appointed chairman of the board of Chiasma, Inc., a U.S. privately-held biopharma company dedicated to developing and commercializing new oral medications previously available by injection only. Chiasma is based in Delaware, with a wholly owned Israeli subsidiary.

Please send me news updates about yourselves and about your families. We would love to learn about you.

1974
Robert McGrattan
rmcgrattan3@gmail.com

1975
The Class of ’75 came together and celebrated in style for their 40th Reunion!

Special thanks to the Reunion Committee (Bill Balduf, Greg “Dinger” Bell, Joe Bond, John Cregg, Janet Hall, Joe Paladino and Bob Tolomer) for planning an evening enjoyed by over 80 attendees. Dinner, dancing under the tent to the live band, conversation, and laughter created an evening for the history books. Joe Paladino sums it up perfectly “I could not have anticipated how awesome the reunion was! It was so great to reconnect, yet I felt a stronger bond than I had ever felt before. After all these years, I felt and received such deeper love from everyone. Thank you all!

Fr. Dennis Tamburello was honored with The Rev. Benjamin Kuhn O.F.M. Award for Service to the Siena Community during Reunion Weekend. Congratulations Fr. D!

We look forward to doing it again in five years!

Update us! Want to stay connected and well-informed about the goings-on at Siena? Make sure to update the Alumni Relations Office with your contact information! If you haven’t already, send your current address, phone number and e-mail to alumni@siena.
Congratulations to the Class of ’75 on their 40th anniversary. We have many a memory of good times spent with you at Siena!!

Congratulations to all your relatives and friends who graduated from school this May and June – be it grade school, high school or college. We wish them all the best as they embark on new adventures.

A special shout out to Pat Maher Arcodia’s daughter Nikki who graduated cum laude from Villanova University in May with a double major in comprehensive science and psychology.

I’d like to put in a good word for our Siena College Pilgrimage to Franciscan Italy next May 18 – 30, 2016. I enjoyed a similar tour planned and escorted by Fr. Mark Reamer, O.F.M. ’83. Traveling with Franciscan’s to the historic Italian cities of Rome, Siena, Assisi and Florence is a great way to learn about the mission and heritage of Siena. For more details, contact Fr. Mark at 518-783-2938 or pilgrimage@siena.edu.

Looking forward to seeing you at our 40th reunion June 3 – 5, 2016. If you are interested in helping plan our reunion please let me know.

Wishing you and your families a safe and happy summer.

Karen Pfau ’77

with her team helping to make a difference in Haiti.

Karen Pfau

Linda Fitzsimmons
lindafitzsimmons@gmail.com

Karen Pfau wrote in with an amazing story. “In April 2004 I participated in a humanitarian aid mission to Gonaives, Haiti. Hurricane Jean hit this city of approximately 100,000 with devastating force. More than 3,000 people died in Gonaives as a result of this hurricane. After providing medical care to thousands of people, working at orphanages and schools, I was driven to make a difference in some small way. Fortunately I have a wonderful, understanding husband and very supportive family who were totally behind me when I asked them to adopt two of my interpreters and bring them from Haiti to live with us. We adopted these two young men as adults and they attended college here in San Luis Obispo, CA.

This past November we, along with our church, went back to Gonaives and worked through a local church at their primary school. We built a latrine and provided school supplies and medical care to people in the community. I would never have known the wonderful people of Haiti or been able to serve them in this small way if it was not for that seemingly insignificant decision I made in 1973 to attend Siena College.”

Robert Stacy ’79

has been appointed Greenwich Public Schools director of human resources.

1976

Jean Reamer
jpreamer@comcast.net

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1977

Karen Pfau ’77

MINI REUNION

Class of 1977

After the Siena News, Winter 2014 edition hit the stands, Kevin Morrison decided he would not be “outdone” by classmates “Mullen, Latino and company.” In January 2015 Kevin Morrison, Dan O’Donnell, Bill Hogan and Jack Lynskey got together for a great day of skiing. The four have kept in contact for over 38 years.

1978

Rick Gabriel
rgabrielsyr@gmail.com

1979

Sue Reilly Hayes
Clifton522@aol.com

Congratulations to Bob Stacy, who started an exciting new position on July 1 as director of human resources for the Greenwich, Conn. public school system. Bob has had more than 30 years of HR experience, most recently as the chief HR officer.

NEWSMAKER

Robert Stacy ’79

has been appointed Greenwich Public Schools director of human resources.

1977

Linda Fitzsimmons
lindafitzsimmons@gmail.com

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NEWSMAKER

Karen Pfau ’77

with her team helping to make a difference in Haiti.

MINI REUNION

Sons of the Desert- 3n Ryan Reunion

Chris Madden ’77 and Din Cahill ’74 hosted golf, cocktails and a Belmont Stakes viewing reception at Wolferts Roost Country Club in Loudonville, N.Y. The get together was enhanced by Joe Bond ’75, who brought new-Sons of the Desert (wing name) shirts for all those in attendance who were members of 3 Ryan in the mid/late ’70’s. Pictured from left to right: Ralph Pepe ’75, Bill Balduf ’75, John Shahda ’75, Joe Bond ’75, Bob Tolomer ’75, Bill Balduf ’75, Din Cahill ’75, Tony Tomaselli 75, Marty Loftus ’77, Chris Madden ’77, Dave Smith ’79, Ken Springer ’75, Gary Holle ’77 and Bob “Sonny” Liston ’76.

1977

Linda Fitzsimmons
lindafitzsimmons@gmail.com

Karen Pfau wrote in with an amazing story. “In April 2004 I participated in a humanitarian aid mission to Gonaives, Haiti. Hurricane Jean hit this city of approximately 100,000 with devastating force. More than 3,000 people died in Gonaives as a result of this hurricane. After providing medical care to thousands of people, working at orphanages and schools, I was driven to make a difference in some small way. Fortunately I have a wonderful, understanding husband and very supportive family who were totally behind me when I asked them to adopt two of my interpreters and bring them from Haiti to live with us. We adopted these two young men as adults and they attended college here in San Luis Obispo, CA.

This past November we, along with our church, went back to Gonaives and worked through a local church at their primary school. We built a latrine and provided school supplies and medical care to people in the community. I would never have known the wonderful people of Haiti or been able to serve them in this small way if it was not for that seemingly insignificant decision I made in 1973 to attend Siena College.”

1979

Sue Reilly Hayes
Clifton522@aol.com

Congratulations to Bob Stacy, who started an exciting new position on July 1 as director of human resources for the Greenwich, Conn. public school system. Bob has had more than 30 years of HR experience, most recently as the chief HR officer.
for the New Britain, Conn. school district. After graduat-
ing from Siena, Bob earned a law degree from Albany Law School. He began his career in the U.S. Army in 1983, serving in a range of human resources roles, including training, operations, security and investigations. He transitioned to the private sector after achieving the rank of major, working for several organiza-
tions before moving to the public education arena in 1997. Bob, best of luck in your new role!

I got a little pang when my last column was published and I realized that I hadn’t included Jane Jackson Walsh’s maiden name as I related the story of the beautiful work she is doing with the Children of Hope and Faith in Tanzania. Bio majors, you would have known the student sitting next to you in class as Jane Jackson! Sorry about the oversight.

1980
Diane DeSilva
diane0429@gmail.com

Cindy Shafer DellaVilla and Diane DeSilva Owens began Reunion 2015 celebrating their retirements with their husbands Jimmy DellaVilla and Rod Owens, as well as other 1980 class members: Carol Keppler Hopper, Christine Onorato Gorgen, Robin Taylor Campbell, Paula Osika Buckheit and Dr. Colleen Taylor Amato.

1983
Elvira Altimi-Joeger
Eaj6@optonline.net

Hello fellow classmates! Happy Summer! We could really use it after this past winter. I have very happy personal news to share — my youngest daughter, Samantha, will be attending Siena in the fall. Of course I am over the moon and excited to become part of the Siena community in a different role – parent. OMG – didn’t we just arrive on campus 10 minutes ago – no wait – that was 1979. Time sure flies! Well, I don’t have too much else to share as nobody ever sends me updates – so please don’t hesi-
tate to keep me updated on your goings on. Nothing too small to share. Last issue I started a new thing called “flashback” for each column. Feel free to share your flashbacks and I will post in the next Alumni News. Here is mine: “Ratskeller” — bet that conjures up some flashbacks– but I was specifically thinking about Thursday Ladies Night. Ode to the days when the drinking age was 18.

If you have any updates or noteworthy items – or if you want me to do a shout out – please email me for inclusion in the next Alumni News. Shout outs to Jenifer Doherty, Mike Avondolio/Susan Alexander-Avendolio, Bill Bayba and Jan Traynor. Where are you and what are you up to? Email me so I can say that you shouted back. Keep in touch ’83!

1984
Lisa San Fratello McCutcheon
mclisa@yahoo.com

Michael Zovistoski, a partner at UHY LLP, and managing director of UHY Advisors NY, Inc. in Albany, N.Y., has been chosen as president-elect by the New York State Society of CPAs. Zovistoski previously served as the NYSSCPA’s secretary/treasurer and on the board’s executive committee. Michael is also a member of the NYSSCPA Political Action Committee Board of Trustees.

1985
Cathy Casey Bjorklund
Ron Bjorklund
Bjork90@comcast.net

Col. Michael J. Worth, Joint Force Headquarters - National Capital Region/U.S. Army Military District of Washington’s Medical Evacuation CONUS Hospitals (MECH) chief, was presented the Legion of Merit, recognizing his 30 years of service to the military during a ceremony held at Fort Lesley J. McNair. As the MECH chief, Worth managed a team that rep-
resents our Army leaders when sick, ill, injured and wounded service members return to the United States at Joint Base Andrews, Md. This small group of dedicated professionals provides continuous visibility of patient transitions from Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East, to designated medical treatment facilities stateside.

Russell (Rusty) Irving has been named Chief (Scientist) Services Technology for General Electric. Rusty is responsible for shaping the vision and road-
map for service technology capabilities in General Electric by analyzing the competitive
The global Technology leader position. In 2005, Rusty also established the NBCU Program Office at GRC. He is also now a Fastworks coach.

Richard Ognibene, a former Niskayuna resident, was inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame, a distinction he said honors the entire profession and stresses the importance of educators. Ognibene teaches chemistry and physics at Fairport High School near Rochester, where he has taught thousands of 10th-, 11th- and 12th-graders over the past 23 years. Ognibene comes from a family of teachers — his parents taught at Siena College and his brother currently teaches social studies at Schenectady High School.

Congratulations and thank you to Michelle Annese for the naming of the game room in Casey’s Lounge in the Sarazen Student Union. Dominica’s was dedicated during Reunion Weekend. It is named after her daughter Dominica ‘18 and is in memory of her nephew, Frankie LoRe.

Welcome new alumni from the Class of 2015, who are children of Class of 1985 alumni: Connor Finnerty (Mary Beth Sniffin and Paul Finnerty), Michael Silk (Claudia Casey and Kevin Silk), John Brennan (John Brennan and Lynda Hillen ‘86), Carolyn Windover (Patty DeBeauvernet and Mark Windover ‘83) and Conor Prunty (Robin Leonard Prunty and Peter Prunty).

The Class of 1985 had such a blast reconnecting at Reunion Weekend (as usual) that we are working on repurposing the NYC 50th birthday party plan to be a regular event. Watch for more details.

1986
Edward Giordano
Edward86@thegiordanos.us

1987
Gerry McAndrew
Geraldine.m.mcandrew@comcast.net

1988
Jim Managhan
Jmanaghan65@yahoo.com

1990
Janet Shotten Jswierbut
jswierbut@yahoo.com

Twenty-five years and it felt like yesterday! It was so wonderful to reconnect with fellow classmates during Reunion Weekend 2015. The campus is even more beautiful now than when we all attended…so many wonderful additions to the campus. We drank, we ate and we danced, and we all felt a little younger (for a few hours) as we reminisced about our four years together at Siena.

Please send me some updates on your life events — big or small. Where are you working? Where are your children going to college? Have you received a special award? Do you have a funny story to share? You can email me at jswierbut@yahoo.com or message me on Facebook. We would all love to hear from you and hope to see you in 2020 for our 30th (yikes!) reunion.

Cheers!
1991

Kevin Clarke
siena91@optonline.net

1992

Mary Pat McLoughlin Holler
jmpholler@yahoo.com

Jennifer Cuozzo DiBiase was recently named principal of Summer Street Elementary School in Lynnfield, Mass.

1993

Sue Hannon
Shannon@ryeneck.k12.ny.us

Happy summer class of ’93! Just one update this time around. Danielle (Cerro) Vadgama has been named to the board of directors of an Atlanta-based charity, Sunshine on a Rainny Day (SOARD). SOARD is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit-approved organization that creates dream rooms and home makeovers for children with long-term illnesses. SOARD has quickly become a leading charity in Atlanta with expertise in residential ADA modifications, including wheelchair-accessible bathrooms, ramps, widened doorways, therapy rooms, custom-built medical storage, and unique children’s room design. It is the hope of SOARD that each family who receives a makeover have a renewed sense of hope knowing their child has a fun and safe environment in which to live while at home. Congratulations Danielle!

I’d love to hear more updates – jobs, moves, vacations, mid-life crises, adventures! Anything!

1996

Brian Murray
murray21@hotmail.com

1997

Selena Dutcher
selena@utdeshine@gmail.com

Mike Butler wrote in and said that he and his wife Carrie are proud parents to Kaitlyn Marie Butler who was born on September 20, 2014.

1998

Janine Trapp Scotti
Sienasaints98@yahoo.com

1999

Brendan Fitzgerald
nyfitzgerald@gmail.com

2000

Chris Madigan
cmadigan@breakinglimits.net

As I write my first of many updates, I’m fresh off a random interaction with my freshman-year roommate and former keeper of the notes, Shynnum Schweitzer. A quick conversation on a golf course is better than nothing. Memories of those first few months in the basement of Ryan Hall came flooding back…and it had nothing to do with the actual flood that we experienced back in the fall of 1996 on the first floor.

Heard from a handful of you and it’s nice to connect again with y’all…I’ve lived in North Carolina for six years now so I’ll apologize for the occasional twang that surfaces.

Congratulations to Matt Klafeln and his wife Ingrid! While a little overdue, the happy couple welcomed their son, Landry Hudson, to the world in December of ’13. While not changing diapers, Matt is busy serving in his second year as principal at New Lebanon Junior/Senior High School.

Heard from a glowing Megan Ockovic who was proudly celebrating her husband George, who was recently ranked 198th in the entire country for his work as a loan originator for United Northern Mortgage Bankers. The good news continued for Megan as she recently started working for Suffolk County Legislator Tom Barraga.

If you haven’t heard from Adrean Krieg and her husband Glenn ’99, I’m happy to say that she was just promoted to assistant manager of Real Estate Equity Acquisitions for the NYS Teachers’ Retirement System. BOOM.

Juliana Lam Dreweck wrote in to tell me that her young business, Perceived, is thriving and growing. Her clients are from all over the world and they focus on strengthening brand images and those brands’ positioning. Check out her work at www.perceivedbrand.com.

And finally, Lindsay Gennari is working as an anesthesiologist in Albany specializing in obstetrics. She loves working in the area and helping fellow Siena alumni bring new Saints into the world. When not welcoming new Saints into the world, she’s a busy mom to a four-year-old daughter and two-year-old son.

Thanks to you all who reached out. It was great to see some of you at our reunion. Cheers!

2001

Maura Mack
Maura820@yahoo.com

Dear Classmates,

Who can believe next June will be our 15-year reunion? I continue to enjoy hearing updates from you to share with our class, and encourage you to keep us all posted of your news.

Well wishes to Suzanne Timmes Flynn and her husband, Tim, who welcome twin girls: Caitlyn Edele Flynn and Riley Marie Flynn on March 5, 2015. Classmate Tony Carrk is keeping incredibly busy as he’s has been hired to serve as Hillary Clinton’s research director for her presidential run.

James Faranda, who is a senior financial consultant/tax preparer at CAP COM Financial Administrators, Inc. was recently announced as the new Director, Accounting Department and Controller at CapCom Financial.

NEWSMAKER

Patti Cellery McCall ’95 was awarded the University of Central Florida Information Technology and Resources Outstanding Collaboration Award for her work on library research strategies.

NEWSMAKER

Katrina D’Aquin ’00 has been named vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty at Bethany College.
Kate Halligan ’02
with her family arrive at SPAC for Albany Medical College Commencement and her third degree from the institution.

MINI REUNION

Members from the classes of 2003 and 2005 meet at Briar Creek Golf Course to raise money for the Donna Crandall Foundation on June 13.

2003

Bill Bordak
wbordak@sju.edu

Hello Class of 2003! My name is Bill Bordak (Psychology ’03) and I am your newly-minted Alumni News class updates coordinator. It is with great pleasure that I accepted the offer from Alumni Relations to help the Class of 2003 share our accomplishments and stories. I am originally from Connecticut but nowadays live in Merion Station, Pa. (across the street from Philadelphia) and work at Saint Joseph’s University. We have a number of great updates this time around. Thank you to everyone who received my message somehow and provided updates. If you have any updates to share in future magazines, please email me at wbordak@sju.edu.

Fr. Matt Wetsel was installed as pastor of Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Middleburgh, N.Y. during the summer of 2014. He also serves as the sacramental minister for the Catholic Community Our Lady of Fatima in Delanson. Matt and his five pets (a tortoise, a bearded dragon, and three gerbils) are enjoying life in the Schoharie Valley.

Since graduation, Michael Zuccaro has been periodically making his way up the corporate chain at MasterCard, currently serving as an internal auditor in the corporate finance division. Michael recently married his beautiful wife Jennifer (UNC graduate) and bought a house in Ridgefield, Conn. They also welcomed a baby girl named Natalie on July 1, 2014. These accomplishments are notable, as Michael was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia called APL (acute promyelocytic leukemia) in June 2014. Fortunately, it was very treatable and Michael is excited to say that with support from his family and friends, he has been cancer free since January of this year.

Alison Brewi is currently living in Mineola, N.Y. (originally from Huntington, N.Y.) and works as a guidance counselor at a high school in Queens. Alison is excited to announce that she is getting married on July 11, 2015 and will honeymoon in Sicily and Greece!!

Roy Chiquitucto and his wife Anne are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Grace. Both are still serving as majors in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves and currently reside in Colorado.

Jonathan Hicks would like to share that he and his wife, Jillian Milewski Hicks welcomed a baby girl on January 15, 2015, named Liliana Frankie.

Todd Donovan, one of the highest ranking scouts in the Arizona Diamondbacks’ amateur scouting department, is leaving to take a position with the Tampa Bay Rays. Good luck Todd!

Kristopher Goodrich has a book coming out that he would like to let people know about. Group Counseling with LGBTQI Persons was published in April 2015 by the American Counseling Association.

Stacy Galarneau and Michael Walker recently welcomed a baby boy, Colin James Walker, on May 3, 2015. He was 7 pounds 14 ounces and 19.25 inches.

Linda Parry, CEO, Product Launchers, has been named one of Westchester County Business Council’s 40 Under 40 Rising Stars. The 40 Under 40 program recognizes individuals in Westchester, N.Y. who surpass expectations, raise the bar and set new standards for success. Linda is founder and CEO of Product Launchers, a marketing, sales and distribution powerhouse.

Lastly, Kevin Testo CPA was just promoted to principal in the Albany office for The Bonadio Group. Kevin will continue to concentrate his work on audits of healthcare and non-profit organizations.
2004

Melissa Termine Goetz
Mtermine24@yahoo.com

Lauren Weber
Lwebs13@gmail.com

Lots of new additions to the Siena Saints family! Steve Goetz and Melissa (Termine) Goetz welcomed their third child, a daughter, Catherine Susan Goetz on April 22, 2015. Congratulations to Katherine (Sagar) Curtis who married Stephen Curtis on August 9, 2013. They just welcomed their first child, Derek Stephen Curtis, on September 24, 2014.

Rosemary (DeLaurentis) DeFilippis and Kevin DeFilippis welcomed their daughter Siena Marie DeFilippis on November 9, 2014.

Elizabeth (DeVanzo) Kennedy and Brendan Kennedy ’02 welcomed their daughter Claire in May 2014.

Kevin Roberts and Brooke Roberts (Ford) ’05 had a healthy baby boy named Dylan in July of 2014. They are currently residing in Saratoga Springs.

In professional news, Jenifer Prouty, a residential sales associate with Maple Leaf Realty, won the 2014 Top Producer award for their Northshire Office in Sunderland, Vermont. Jenifer is passionate about helping people through the buying and selling process, and reduces their stress by managing all the details.

Eric Hungershaf er recently completed his Chartered Leadership Fellow (CLF) designation through the American College after a 16-month program.

After nearly eight years as associate and then director of Lasalian Volunteers, Jolleen Wagner has stepped down to return to the school setting and to the state of New York. She will be joining Seton Education Partners and Brilla College Preparatory Charter School in the South Bronx.

It was so wonderful to hear from so many of you!

2005

Breanne Suhrland Elsesser
bsuhrlan@att.net

Greetings Class of 2005! First for the baby announcements! On April 8, 2015, at 9:20 P.M., Chris Elsesser ’06 and I welcomed our son Mason Christopher into the world. He was 8 pounds 6 ounces and 21 inches long and is looking forward to becoming a future Saint, in the class of 2037!

Colleen McCue McLaughlin and Brendan McLaughlin ’04 welcomed their second son Brady Albert into the world on February 23, 2015. He was 8 pounds 14 ounces and 20.5 inches long.


On the job front, Melissa Guiry has taken a new position as a corporate trainer at Ellis Medicine. Melissa will be helping with professional development of staff utilizing her background in education by developing curriculum, planning and leading in training.

Gary C. Holle II graduated on February 20, 2015 from the Basic School of the New York State Police Academy in Albany. He is currently stationed in Troop D Zone 3 in upstate New York.

Mason is a very happy baby and is a BIG Yankees and Siena basketball fan. More importantly, he is currently planning on being a future Saint, as a member of Siena’s Class of 2037!

Colleen Carey Davis and her husband Phil Davis, welcomed their new son Owen Davis, into their family on April 27, 2015. Owen weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20.5 inches long! Congratulations Colleen and Phil!

2006

Chris Elsesser
Christopher.elsesser@gmail.com

Greetings fellow Siena ’06ers! I hope this edition of Siena Alumni News finds you in the middle of enjoying a very relaxing and fun summer! I know that many of you are very busy lately, but if you could please take a few minutes over the next couple of weeks and shoot me an update of your latest happenings, I would greatly appreciate it.

Remember, no news is too small to share! You can also send in updates of what is going on with your old roommates and other members of our Siena family. Don’t forget, the countdown is now officially on to our 10-year reunion, which will be coming up (very quickly) in June 2016. Stay tuned for more details!

This quarter we have two new birth announcements to share! First, my wife Breanne Suhrland Elsesser ’05 and I are excited to announce the birth of our son, Mason Christopher Elsesser! Mason was born on April 8, 2015 at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, N.Y. at 9:20 P.M. He weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Mason is a BIG Yankees and Siena basketball fan. More importantly, he is currently planning on being a future Saint, as a member of Siena’s Class of 2037!

In an effort to publish alumni wedding photos in a more timely manner and to allow alumni to share these photos via social media all future weddings will be posted at www.siena.edu/weddings. The wedding announcements will continue to appear in the class notes section. Cheers!
2009

Tiffany Salonich
tsalonich11@aim.com

Hello Class of 2009,

Elizabeth Sica and Michael Sica welcomed their son, Logan Michael Sica into the world on November 11, 2014.

April London was inducted into the Siena Athletics Hall of Fame in December 2014.

Christina DaSilva and Vinny DaSilva are happy to share the birth of their triplets, three future Siena Saints: Simon Vincent, Leo Charles and Cecilia Mary DaSilva, who were born on January 14, 2015.

Kate Robetor Jones and Matthew Jones welcomed their baby girl Savannah Kathleen on March 3, 2015.

Channing Vidal and Ashley Vidal relocated to Connecticut, where he has accepted a position as director of student conduct and community standards at Sacred Heart University.

John Behrens was selected as a 2015 Westchester Wunderkind. As a product developer with PepsiCo’s Global Ready to Drink Beverages Team, Behrens has helped launch some 20 products, taking the lead on the creation of beverages including Mug Root Beer made with real sugar for the U.S., Mirinda Pineapple for Egypt, and Mirinda Orange for Korea. He is currently working towards his Master’s in food science through the PepsiCo/Rutgers University distance learning program.

Adam Sopris has been working with the band Hard Soul for a couple years now, helping them with their press needs.

A couple of Siena alumni, Ryan Klaeysen ’11 and Mark Podbielski along with two Saint Rose alumni successfully raised $12,000 this month via Kickstarter.

Love is in the air for the following couples:

Kevin Sheldon and Lauren Rapsard married on August 8, 2014 at Saratoga National. Liam Meenagh and Chelsea Allen became engaged on October 17, 2014. They plan to marry on August 22, 2015. George Allen and Kimberly Lindeman became engaged in December 2014 while vacationing in St. Thomas. He proposed to her at her favorite spot on the island (she grew up vacationing there because her grandparents lived there during the winter). George even had Kimberly’s grandfather in on the proposal, he was the photographer. They are getting married in August 2016. Laura Costello and Brendan O’Connor wed on December 20, 2014. Sara Rizzo and Eric Wilcox became engaged on December 31, 2014.


Please email me anytime at tsalonich11@aim.com to share any news with our class.

2010

Kelly Peckholdt
tpeckholdt@gmail.com

It was great to see some of you at our five-year reunion! Keep the updates coming – please email me or contact me on Facebook anytime with information to include in an upcoming alumni column. Wishing everyone a wonderful summer!

2011

Allison Collins
am27coll@gmail.com

Kate Rowlands and Kevin Quaranto were engaged in March and are planning a July 2015 wedding.

Cassandra Salonich Evans was wed on April 25, 2015 to Sgt. Jeffery Evans II and is now living in Columbia, S.C.

Jill Duarte and Steve Rosamino ’10 were engaged last May.

On March 14, 2015 Mike Edmonds ’12 and Jessica Morelli were married at the Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia.

Sam Watson is currently enrolled in a two year, full-time
program at UNC Chapel Hill for her master’s in social work. She is currently interning at Family Abuse Services of Alamance County, N.C.  

Alli Bartunek Heeter recently married Patrick Heeter in November, and is currently living in Washington state.  

Amanda Ricciardi recently moved back to the Albany area and is working for the Office of Children and Family Services. She is working as a licensed social worker at the Brookwood Secure Center, a boy’s juvenile detention facility, located in Claverack, N.Y.  

2012  
Therese Daly  
ThereseDalyClass2012classnotes@gmail.com  

Alyssa Sceppaguercio is chasing her dream! She attended the NCAA Emerging Leaders Seminar in Indianapolis in January along with 200 other graduate assistants who were selected from the NCAA membership institutions, conference offices, and affiliate organizations nationwide. Currently, Alyssa is a graduate assistant in the Center for Research and Evaluation on Education and Human Services at Montclair State University. She is one semester away from graduating with her master’s in counseling with a focus on higher education.  

Alex Mazza was featured in the New York City-based magazine W42 ST for his advice as a health coach. Alex is also entering his third year of his health seminar series and is still hard at work developing his clientele. His clients vary from the West coast to the East coast, so check him out!  

Meghan Yi will be competing in an Iron Man Distance (140.6 mile race comprised of a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride, and 26.2 mile run) Triathlon in July 2015. Please consider donating to her race, to raise money for Alzheimer’s Research!  

James Lyons graduated from Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center in Central Islip, N.Y. with his J.D. summa cum laude. James, while attending, worked as a New York constitutional law issue editor for the Touro Law Review. He also published a case note in the Touro Law Review.  

Heather Kesting is now store team leader at Target. Lindsay Tegas accepted a job as a material scientist at Xerox. Matt Turcino accepted a position as assistant manager at Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Kim Carrocia is now a senior business analyst at Royal Health Care.  

Amanda Altobelli accepted a position as a physician's assistant in the emergency room at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady, N.Y. Her wedding is set for the fall. Congrats Amanda!  

Danielle Boswell accepted a position as physician assistant for Orthopedic and Urology Services at Coney Island Hospital and will be moving to New York City for the position.  

Zach Griffiths accepted a new job with Bank of America in the Global Banking and Markets Department. He bought a condo in Charlotte, N.C. with his girlfriend, Mackenzie as well!  

2013  
Cass per J ane Werking  
CJ@werk@siena.edu  

Hello Fellow Siena Alumni! Here are all the ways that the members of the Class of 2013 continue to “open doors” for others in all of their current endeavors! Go Saints!  

Jennifer Cullen is currently working in the Relationships Office at Proctors Theatre in Schenectady, N.Y. She manages all donors under the $300 level.  

Maureen Jefery completed her master’s degree in mathematics at Syracuse University.  

Sara O’Shea is spending her summer in Albany as a legal intern in the Healthcare Bureau of the Attorney General’s Office.  

2014  
Kaitlin Harrison  
keO6harr@siena.edu  

I can’t believe it’s been a whole year since graduation. Congratulations to the newest alumni, the class of 2015! Alana Strassfield is living in Brooklyn and working for a fashion company (PVH) on their corporate social responsibility team!  

Shortly after graduating Sara Mikula and Michael Valiquette set out to create a magazine focusing on conversations with creative people — a journal to inspire artists of all kinds to continue with their artistic endeavors. Of the five artists they interviewed, Siena Professors Scott Foster and Elaina Frulla were included and helped by contributing insightful words in their very first volume ever. Their website is www.ohcontraire.com  

Chris Donato was covering the Charleston shooting story for ABC news in June. He reports “It is such a tragic story. However, I knew my training prepared me to cover this story too.” Chris is a digital news associate for ABC News. He accompanied ABC news anchor David Muir and his crew to Charleston the morning after a gunman fatally shot nine people in a historic church.  

I hope everyone has an enjoyable and relaxing summer! Keep sending me updates. I love hearing from you!  

2015  
Helene Rachid  
Caroline Bertholf  
SienaNotes2015@gmail.com  

Matt Schiesel has been awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Grant to Poland for the 2015-2016 academic year. He will be working in a university classroom to assist students with their development of the English language and serve as a cultural ambassador between the United States and the people of Poland.  

Alicia Munian has taken two jobs in the Elmont area. She is the legislative assistant to Assemblywoman Michaeile C. Solages, where she travels with County Legislator Carrie Solages. She also covered the Elmont area for the 2015-2016 academic year.
In Memory

Siena College mourns the loss of the following members of our community:

Robert J. Arnold ’59
James J. Barber ’50
Joseph B. Best ’79
Joseph Bianco ’78
Richard Bogdan ’50
Creighton W. Brittel ’41
John J. Brown III ’73
James Francis Burgess ’53
Joseph A. Cahill ’53
Claire E. Canavan ’74
Frederick R. “Fred” Colucci ’74
Andrew D. Davey ’50
Richard Davidson ’50
Michael A. DeCrescente ’54
Thomas J. Doherty ’50
William “Bill” H. Elder ’59
Diane J. Walton Farley ’77
Nicholas E. Fiscarelli ’62
Edwin C. Frieberg Jr. ’50
George Fritz ’74
Neil A. Granlees ’69
Fr. Capistran Hanlon, O.F.M.
The Honorable Clifford T. Harrigan ’50
Frederick E. Harrigan ’51
Holm Hinrichs ’49

David Earle Hodgkins ’74
Joseph Hoffman ’63
Donald C. Hoyt ’52
William S. Hutchinson III ’65
Bruce Jensen ’58
Jeffrey L. Katz ’87
J. “Pat” Kelly ’76
Margaret Kropp ’62
Kathleen Kundel ’52
Dr. Margaret Kelly London, former board of advisors
Robert W. Mahoney ’61
Joseph “Joe” Malatino ’63
Anthony “Tony” Mastroianni ’62
Margaret V. McAlonie ’60
J. Kevin McCartan ’59
Thomas E. McCarthy III ’64
John “Terry” McGowan ’65
Raymond Frederick Munger ’79
James D. Nerone ’67
Richard J. Nichols ’79
RaDaniel Joseph Patrick ’08
John J. “Jack” Postulka III ’70
William J. Powers Sr. ’61
The Hon. Vincent Puritano ’59
Nicholas Ramundo ’14

John V. Ringwood ’65
James T. Roach ’53
Gary Rotella ’73
John M. Rotelli ’50
Robert A. Rubino ’64
Vincent Salerno ’67
James K. Sector ’50
William J. Severino ’50
Joseph P. Sheehan ’73
John E. Simonian ’60
Col. Donald J. Slezak USAR (Ret.) ’58
Sr. Mary Agatha Smith ’70, R.S.M.
Dr. Francis T. Spataro Sr. ’48, D.D.S.
Peter J. Stephan ’61
Carla Ann Robillard Sullivan ’85
William J. Tait ’61
Thomas P. Talbot ’52
Robert M. Tierney ’62
John F. Tyrrell ’48
Robert E. Vought ’50
John U. Washburn ’59
Rodger White ’71
Richard E. Woodward ’64
Charles E. Yandell ’56
Rev. Victor R. Zaccaro ’52
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Visit siena.edu/sienachairdrawing by October 1, 2015 to register to win your choice of this beautiful Siena Chair or a $250 Amazon Gift Card.
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