

# Siena

SIENA NEWS • A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS • SUMMER 2013

## BOSTON STRONG



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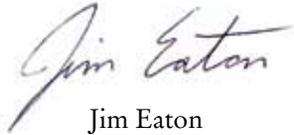
## Message from the Editor

“This place is awesome. I love it here.” These are the words overheard on campus this summer as a group of young girls participating in the Siena College Dance Camp were walking out of the Marcelle Athletic Complex. It was a simple reminder of how fortunate I am to work here.

As this issue illustrates, Siena College is a place where people have fun while exploring their interests. This is certainly the case for me over the past 14 years. Alumni often tell me that Siena changed their lives and helped them achieve success. Their stories get future generations excited about attending Siena.

As you read this issue I hope it rekindles fond memories of your alma mater because, as many people associated with the College will attest, this place is awesome.

Enjoy,



Jim Eaton



## Rosetti Hall

In September, the College will officially open Richard and Joan Rosetti Hall, which will house Siena’s sociology, social work and education departments. The building will be Siena’s first LEED-certified building and will utilize a geothermal heating and cooling system, solar panels and LED lighting.

Other features include high-tech classrooms and meeting rooms, study areas, offices and computer labs. It is designed to increase collaboration and student engagement.



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# from the president

By any objective measure, Siena's MS in accounting has been a resounding success. Launched in 2010, the program was a creative response to a New York State mandate that only those who had completed 150 credit hours of education could sit for the CPA exams. The program has grown from an initial cadre of 19 graduates to the 52 women and men who received their master's hoods this past May. Even more impressive are the employment statistics for our graduate students: 78% of them had been offered jobs by public accounting firms prior to commencement weekend.

But success is more than a numbers game, even for number crunchers. What attracts employers to Siena's graduates isn't just their accounting expertise. Our graduates have what the nation's top CEOs are looking for: the ability to think critically, to work collaboratively and to communicate



effectively (and as a moral theologian, I would hasten to add: and to act ethically.) These skills go beyond mere technical competence, and they are the hallmarks of a liberal arts education. They are honed in classrooms and seminars where philosophy, literature,

history, religious studies and the creative arts are taught. The completion of such courses not only enriches the personal lives of our graduates; it enhances their professional lives as well. As one of our business majors told the history professor he was taking for the fourth time: "Father Dan, you can't talk about accounting all the time—even with other accountants."

I am proud of the achievements of our graduates and of the academic programs that nurtured their talents and nourished their interests during their years at Siena. I am especially proud of the Catholic and Franciscan liberal arts tradition which infused those programs with the wisdom of the ages. My hope is that those newly-minted masters of accounting will celebrate their successful completion of the CPA exams by reading a classic novel and then discussing it with a colleague over a good glass of wine. Cheers!

Fr. Kevin Mullen '75, O.F.M., Ph.D.  
President

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### *Siena News* - Summer 2013

Published by: Siena College

515 Loudon Road, Loudonville, NY 12211-1462

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Video Production: Dave Etzler

On the cover: 2013 graduates received a cover featuring a photo from their commencement ceremony. All others will receive an issue with Boston Firefighter Jimmy Plourde '99 at the Boston Marathon rescuing a young lady at the 2013 Boston Marathon bombings. Photo courtesy of Ken McGagh of MetroWest Daily News.

# 2013 Graduates Filled With Hope

By Evan Hymes '15

With their classes completed, their papers turned in and their diplomas collected, Siena College's Class of 2013 is ready to embark on the next phase of life. While some uncertainty accompanies their next step, the graduates leave Siena with a sense of hopefulness that was evident during Commencement. "I don't really know what's going to happen and that's great," said history major Andrew Ford '13. "I can leave knowing that I am prepared." Ford will be working in the insurance industry. He plans to attend graduate school at UAlbany and pursue a career in politics.

Siena awarded 805 Bachelor's and 52 Master of Science in Accounting degrees to the Class of 2013. The College also conferred honorary degrees on United States District Court Judge for the Northern District of New York the Honorable Mae D'Agostino '77, business and civic leader Walter Kicinski '62 and President of Nigro Companies John Nigro.

Board of Trustees Chairman Bob Cushing '77 spoke for a proud college community when he said, "Measured by any standard, the Class of 2013 achieved more than any other class in the history of Siena College."

Commencement Marshal and Professor of English Meg Woolbright, D.A., reflected on the progress the students made since they started their college careers.

"It's just so much fun to see these students that you taught as freshmen, and now they're graduating and they're adults and they've accomplished so much," said Woolbright.

During their years at Siena, the graduates not only laid a strong academic foundation, but also developed a close-knit social network, as well. Many students feel as if they have made lifetime bonds with friends and faculty alike. As a result, economics major and men's basketball player O.D. Anosike '13 said Commencement brought on a bittersweet feeling. "I'm going to miss Siena a lot, all the great friends and relationships that I built," said Anosike. "At the same time, I think Siena has prepared me to move on." Anosike plans to pursue



Cheers:  
Class of 2013 celebrates  
a toast with Father Kevin  
at 33 Fiddlers Lane.



a professional basketball career.

An aspiring entertainment critic, creative arts major Mitchel Clow '13 is heading across the country to attend California State Fullerton to pursue his master's degree in communications. Clow said it felt great to graduate as a member of the Siena College community. "I can call these people friends for the rest of my life," said Clow.

Physics and math major Alissa Earle '13 will be attending Massachusetts Institute of Technology to pursue a doctorate in planetary science. She said the Siena faculty helped to shape her future. "The faculty that I've had the chance to work with and whose classes I've attended have all just been really fantastic," said Earle.

With their time at Siena concluded, members of the Class of 2013 are poised to put what they learned into practice as they continue their education or begin their careers. As Earle will soon learn, not even the sky's the limit to what they can accomplish.

## PRESIDENTIAL PARTY



Siena College bestowed Mae D'Agostino '77, United States District Court Judge for the Northern District of New York; John Nigro, President of Nigro Companies and

Walter Kicinski '62, Business and Civic Leader with honorary degree at commencement.



The Siena College Mohawk Battalion commissioned 16 second lieutenants this year. Eight of them will go into active duty, five will go into the

National Guard and three will go into the reserves. Branching assignments include field artillery, transportation corps, signal corps, engineers, infantry, quartermaster, military police, and aviation.



## Franco '13 Finds Common Denominator

By Sarah Vistocco '13

Newly minted Siena College graduate Miguel Franco '13 thought outside the box when deciding what to research for his honors thesis. As a student in the J. Spencer and Patricia Standish Honors Program, Franco produced an in-depth scholarly paper on a topic that, to the casual observer, may seem a little off beat. The religious studies major, multicultural studies minor and hip-hop music fan spent the past three semesters combining two personal areas of interest in his paper titled, "Rap's Religious Sensibilities: A Window into the Soul of the Oppressed."

"His work has the potential to open up new scholarly conversations regarding religious rhetoric in hip-hop music, a subject that is often overlooked by hip-hop scholars and historians," said Todd Snyder, Ph.D., assistant professor of English.

Snyder had a profound impact on Franco's work. Franco took Snyder's Rhetoric(s) of Hip-Hop Culture class and it became a conduit for the academic content he needed to support his thesis. "A lot of what I wrote for this class ended up in my thesis," said Franco. His work demonstrates how the worlds of rap and religion

are not as separate as one might think.

Franco's research looked at the historical foundations of the African-American community and their influence on rap through a religious lens. "I want to show how the historical and socioeconomic contexts help shape the type of stories you cling to," said Franco.

"Miguel has a remarkably synthetic intelligence. He sees exciting, important connections among seemingly disparate ideas and practices," said Professor of Religious Studies Tom Dickens, Ph.D., who served as Franco's mentor throughout the writing process.

In April, Franco presented his work at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. Four other Siena College students also attended the conference. Their trips were funded through Siena's Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity.



To view videos on commencement and the Standish Honors Program visit [sienanewsmag.com](http://sienanewsmag.com).



# Siena Welcomes

By Jodi Ackerman Frank

When Robert Cushing '77 passed the chairmanship of Siena's Board of Trustees to Howard Foote '74, the transition was seamless. The distinguished alums share a life-long commitment to the Siena community and its academic well-being.

Foote was just a young accountant fresh out of college when he began to donate what funds he could to his alma mater. It was an act of generosity and gratitude that would be multiplied many times over as an associate trustee, trustee and now as chairman of the board.

"Siena College prepared me for a professional career and helped me to develop character within the framework of a great Franciscan Catholic environment. I wanted to show my appreciation for that," said Foote, a managing partner in charge of operations for UHY LLP's Capital Region office, the nation's 20th largest accounting firm as reported by *Accounting Today*.

Foote, who most recently served for four years as the board's treasurer and last year as the board's vice chair, assumed his new role in June. He credits his success to Siena and to his family, who include Susan, his wife of 33 years; his son Kevin, who is now an Equity portfolio trader at Morgan Stanley; and his daughter Jenna '14.

Foote's immediate predecessor was board chair for six years. Cushing, an Albany native, is CFO of Trustco Bank. He started his career as an accountant for two national accounting firms and said Siena changed his life. Cushing decided to return the favor with 18 years of dedicated service as a college trustee.

"I grew up in inner-city Albany. When I graduated from high school, I applied to Siena. The College accepted me, but I had no money to go," said Cushing. "I went to the Admissions Office and, eventually, to the President's Office and said, 'If you will be kind enough to take a risk on me, someday, if given the opportunity, I will pay you back.'" Cushing made his first "payment" on the "loan" when, one year after graduating from Siena, he made his initial contribution to the College's Annual Fund.

At Siena, Cushing met his future wife, Trudy '77. The couple were married on campus and their two boys were baptized on College grounds.

Robert Cushing '77

# New Board Chair

Both Cushing and Foote have established Siena scholarships, awarded annually to students who demonstrate financial need.

As for his thoughts on the incoming chairman, Cushing said he is confident that Foote will continue to propel Siena forward through this decade and beyond.

“Howard is the ideal person to be the chairman of the board at this time. He’s a great communicator and has a clear vision of what needs to be accomplished,” Cushing said.

Under Cushing’s leadership, Siena launched its latest strategic plan in 2011. Titled *Living Our Tradition*, the plan provides a blueprint to enhance student engagement and strengthen the College’s endowment and other financial resources. It also places greater emphasis on research opportunities.

“Bob’s tenure has spanned one of the most volatile economic times Siena has seen since its founding in 1937. In spite of that, he has been a wonderful and timely leader for us,” Foote said. “He has a unique, proactive ability not only to listen and collaborate, but also to develop and execute strategies to make the Siena community more successful.”

In his new role as chairman, Foote said he will take the lead in continuing to implement the strategic plan, particularly as it relates to strengthening the endowment and broadening the base from which the College draws its students in today’s competitive environment of higher education.

Foote sees the College reaching out to more nontraditional students who are looking to enhance their understanding of today’s global society.

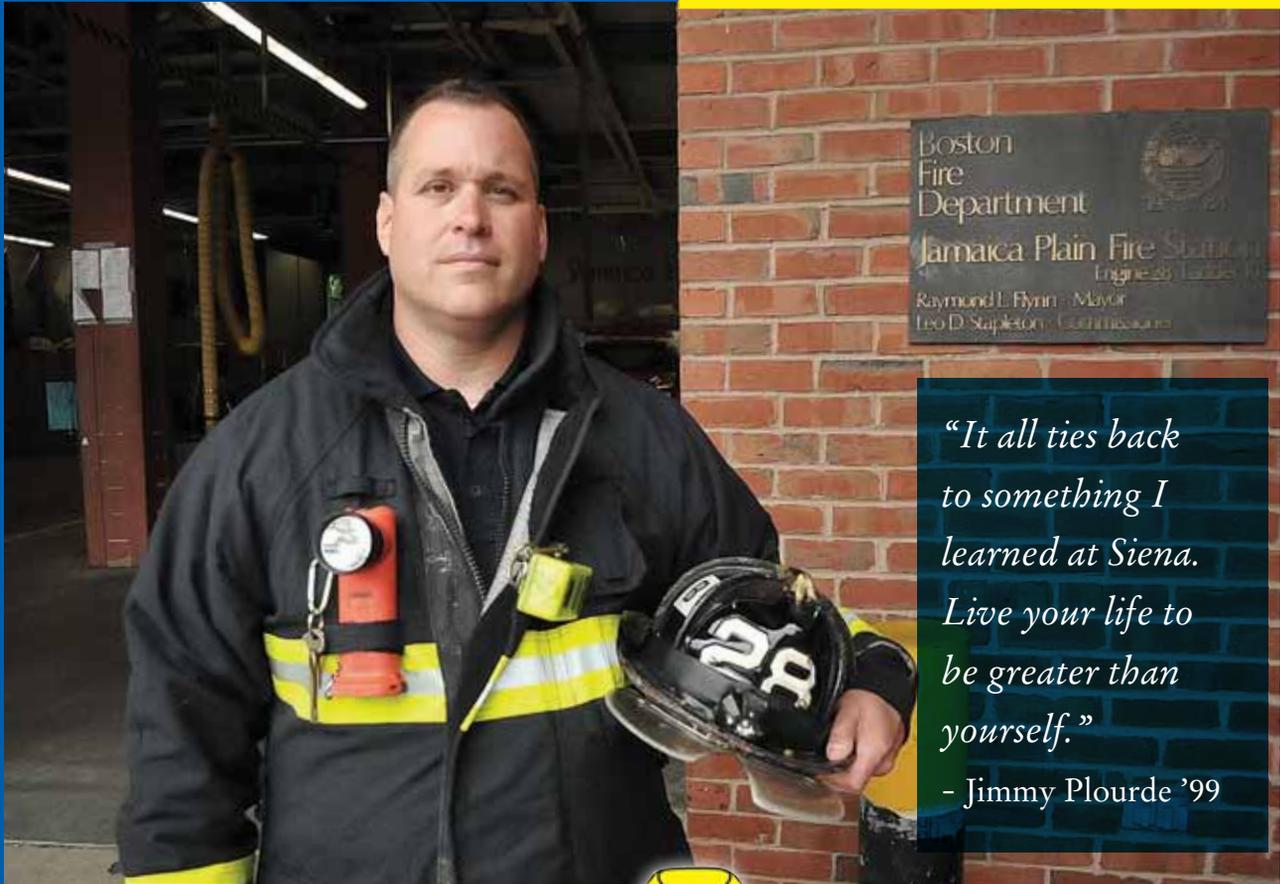
“My role as chairman will be to help the board continue to address and enhance the areas of globalization, innovation, endowment preservation, academic excellence and shared governance between the board and the academy,” Foote said.

Foote and Cushing emphasized that shared governance has been a key to Siena’s strength as an academic institution.

“I’ve always been a big believer that it’s the community — students, faculty, staff, administrators, the local residents and others working together — that makes Siena as successful as it is and will continue to be,” Cushing said.



Howard Foote '74



*“It all ties back to something I learned at Siena. Live your life to be greater than yourself.”*

*- Jimmy Plourde '99*

# Boston Strong Siena Pride

By Ken Jubie '04

The sound of two bombs exploding near the finish line of the Boston Marathon is impossible to forget. In just 12 seconds, the terrorist attack killed three people, injured hundreds more and left thousands scared and confused.

When he heard the first explosion, Boston firefighter Jimmy Plourde '99 was working about 50 feet away from its source. He knew it sounded like a bomb and immediately started running to help. “We didn’t have to run far to see people coming at us with cuts and clothes ripped off and burned,” Plourde said.

Even Plourde, who worked for Boston EMS before becoming a firefighter almost four years ago, didn’t anticipate how bad the scene was going to be. Amidst the chaos,

he relied on his training and trusted his instincts. “I realized that I had a job to do and my first thought was who can I help first,” Plourde said.

As he navigated the smoky, blood-smear scene, Plourde made his way through the scaffolding and bleachers and into the building near the blast site. As he shouted for people to leave the area, the firefighter heard a call for assistance. “Another guy, Bruce, yelled, ‘Hey, you have to help this girl,’” Plourde said. “So I went over and he had started to tie a tourniquet. I tightened it down and I said, ‘You gotta go. I’ll take care of this girl.’”

The image of Plourde carrying her to safety has become synonymous with the heroism and bravery exhibited by Boston’s first-responders in the aftermath of the attack. “At

first, that picture angered me a bit as I was dealing with the emotions of the day,” Plourde said. “But now it gives me a sense of pride knowing that I did my best that day and I know everyone else that was out there did their best as well.”

The girl in the picture is Victoria McGrath. Plourde visited her in the hospital and has kept in touch. He said she’s recovering and remains in good spirits. “She could have lost her life that day,” Plourde said. “I like to think that the efforts of not only myself, but everybody that was involved helped save her life so she can go on and do great things.”

The potential for loss on that fateful day hits close to home for Plourde. His wife Michelle brought their 18-month-old daughter Ceileigh down to the



Top and bottom left: Jimmy Plourde '99 with Victoria McGrath, the young lady he helped after the Boston Marathon bombing. Top right: Plourde and other first responders were honored for their efforts prior to a Boston Bruins game this spring. Bottom: His wife Michelle brought their 18-month-old daughter to the finish line to see her first race. They left 19 minutes prior to when the first bomb went off.

finish line to see her first Boston Marathon. They were sitting in front of the building where the first bomb would explode. Fortunately, they left in the nick of time. "I got a text at 2:30 p.m. saying that they're hopping on the train. The bombs went off at 2:49 p.m.," Plourde said. "Nineteen minutes could have changed my life forever."

Plourde credits his family and fellow firefighters with helping him cope with the myriad of emotions that came in the wake of such a traumatic event and in the spotlight of national attention. As he fielded hundreds of calls, Plourde said that

hearing from his Siena College friends gave him comfort.

"It was the Siena guys that reached out and made the difference because they're genuine, they're friends and I know I can count on them."

Plourde majored in political science and played rugby while at Siena, but he said the community support makes the College special. He said one impromptu learning experience during a Siena event has stuck with him through his days working as a history teacher, for Boston EMS and now as a firefighter. "It all kind of ties back for me to something I learned at Siena. It's on my Facebook page, and I say it to kids; live your life to be greater than yourself. Fr. Kevin Mackin, O.F.M. said that."

Plourde believes that the former Siena College president's remarks are words to live by and he hopes to some day pass them along to his children.

"You can go out in the world, you can make a lot of money, you can

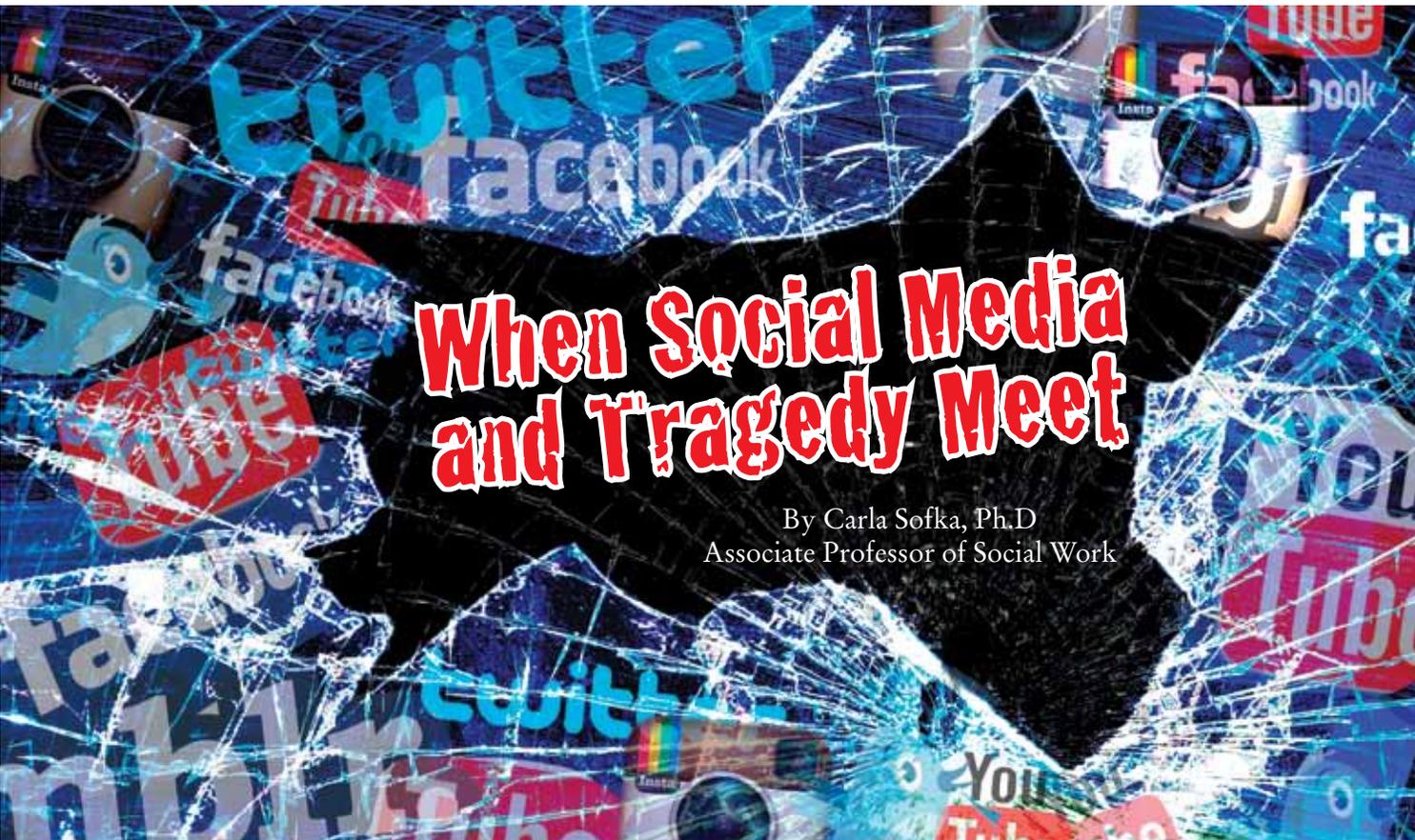
do a lot of different things, but at what point do you say, 'Maybe this is enough,'" Plourde said. "You need to give back and help somebody else out. And that's really going to be the measure of a man for me."

While Plourde's profile has become more pronounced, his perspective hasn't changed. It remains the same as it has been since he took Fr. Mackin's message to heart. Plourde is back to work and waiting for the next call or, as he sees it, the next opportunity to serve people in their time of need.

"Bad things are still going to happen. There are going to be fires, there's going to be death and destruction," Plourde said. "When it happens, I hope I'm on the job and I hope I can be there to help."



To view a video that accompanies this story visit [sienanewsmag.com](http://sienanewsmag.com).



# When Social Media and Tragedy Meet

By Carla Sofka, Ph.D  
Associate Professor of Social Work

Where were you on April 15 at approximately 2:49 p.m.? Think about how you learned of the Boston Marathon tragedy and how quickly you could access information that was important to you. Were you worried about the safety of someone who was running that day or someone who was watching the race?

Technology and social media are changing the way that we learn about tragic events and cope with the aftermath. Recent Siena graduate Kelly Woodard '13 was visiting a friend at Boston College that day when she received text messages asking if she was OK.

"I had no clue what was happening," Woodard said. After learning of the bombing, Woodard joined BC students watching the news, checking Twitter and looking at images and newsfeeds on iPads and smartphones.

Is access to technology and social media during times of tragedy helpful? Anecdotal evidence indicates that there are pros and cons. Having information can be beneficial, but fast-breaking

information may not be accurate. When asked about the impact of technology on the reactions of those around her, Woodard stated, "With technology, peoples' minds were racing. They were even more panicked when someone didn't respond. You think of every possible scenario when you can't get information."

Analyses of social media sites and tweets in the wake of the bombing reveal that, in addition to informational messages and advisories that were disseminated by official organizations, numerous messages of support were sent to those in Boston via tweets while reactions to the event were being shared on Facebook. Social media also played a significant role in identifying suspects.

There is no doubt that technology and social media are powerful tools in everyday life and in times of personal and communal tragedy. As a professor who studies the grieving process, I am interested in how social media may have helped you to cope with tragic events. Please feel free to contact me at [csofka@siena.edu](mailto:csofka@siena.edu).

As the spring semester drew to a close, Siena College recognized the academic achievement and hard work of its students with the annual Celebration of Academic Excellence. Throughout the day, students were inducted into various honor societies and some were recognized with awards for campus leadership and community involvement.

“Academic Celebration is a reminder of our mission and honors the success of our students,” said Joseph Fitzgerald, assistant to vice president of academic affairs. “This is our way of saying well done.”

Many undergraduates also shared the results of their research during a forum open to the entire Siena College community.

As part of her research methods class, Kathryn Hagen '14 studied the effects of gender and military status on college students' perceptions of post-traumatic stress disorder. She reported on her findings at the forum with her future career as a mental health professional in mind. “I want to present at psychological conferences, so I thought this would be good practice,” said Hagen.



## The Life of the Mind: Alive and Well at Siena

By Sarah Vistocco '13

Sociology major Lindsey Knowlden '13 based her capstone project on her experiences abroad and volunteer efforts in the Capital Region. Knowlden spent six weeks in India last summer working in a foster home which led her to the Parsons Child and Family Center in Albany when she returned to the states. Knowlden used her experiences in India to create a handbook designed to teach the

foster children at Parsons about cultural diversity and the value of community involvement through service. “The kids actually asked if they could do a service project because they wanted to communicate with the children in India,” said Knowlden.

Jessica Reinhardt '13 presented the software she helped to create for the Conference of the Northeast Region of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges, which was held at Siena last spring. Conference Chair and Associate Professor of Computer Science Darren Lim, Ph.D., had asked Reinhardt and her fellow students to work on the project as part of their software engineering capstone course. The class split into teams and developed a system for conference scheduling, online registration and the submission of papers. The students spent a year on the project. The diversity in their final creations is a testament to their creative and technological abilities. “It was cool because the teams worked independently of each other,” said Reinhardt.



# School's In for Summer

By Mark Adam

Cyber bullying in video games, mob violence following Abraham Lincoln's assassination and the economics of community services for convicted offenders were just three of the many research projects completed by students and professors through the Summer Scholars program. The goal is for students to engage with faculty in research that results in published scholarly work.

These kinds of opportunities are growing at Siena College, especially with the creation of the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (CURCA). Summer Scholars is funded by CURCA, which provides stipends for participating students and faculty members.

"For students, it's an opportunity to work in a very focused manner on a research project," said Cheryl Buff '82, Ph.D., director of CURCA.



Lauren Mathews '15, a computer science major, and Shauna Pratico '14, an English major, worked with Assistant Professor of Computer Science Meg Fryling '97, Ph.D., and Visiting Instructor in Computer Science Jami Cotler to investigate cyber bullying in video games.

Mathews has always been a gamer and Pratico is passionate about the issue of bullying.

Mathews and Pratico observed four different groups playing online video games and developed a 42-question survey that was sent out through video game message boards, Facebook, Twitter and on the games themselves through Nintendo's online social network Miiiverse. The team will breakdown the data in the fall and they plan on publishing two or three papers.

"It's an unseen view on cyber bullying," Mathews said.

Francis Butler had enjoyed Associate Professor of History Bruce Eelman's, Ph.D., classes and approached him about potential research opportunities. The two worked together on Eelman's book project about mob violence following Abraham Lincoln's assassination.

Butler spent most of his time in the library, looking through old newspaper clippings, microfilm and the Internet, searching for primary and secondary sources.

"It provided me a behind the scenes look at how professional historians tackle their research projects and armed me with analysis and writing skills that will assist me in the future," Butler said.

Audrey Sabatini '14 and Stacey Morris '14 both worked with Assistant Professor of Economics Ashley Provencher, Ph.D., but on two different projects related to cost-benefit analysis of community services for convicted offenders.

"I'm not the first to create, they're the first to create, and I think that having those different perspectives are really important in the creative process," Provencher said.

Siena is trying to institutionalize the Summer Scholars program as more emphasis is put on undergraduate research and other high-impact learning opportunities.

"It really has the potential to be a transformative learning experience," Buff said.



# Alvarez Brings Lit to Life

By Sarah Vistocco '13

The English Department's Greyfriar Living Literature Series welcomed author Julia Alvarez to campus this spring. She also headlined the annual Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King Lecture Series on Race and Nonviolent Social Change. The dynamic writer has received critical acclaim for her novels, poetry and essays. She is best known for her novels "In the Time of the Butterflies" and "How the García Girls Lost Their Accents."

As part of the Greyfriar Series, Alvarez was invited to read a segment of her novel "A Wedding in Haiti." The novel grew from Alvarez's personal experience and became "a pebble in her shoe," or a story begging to be told, as the author described. Alvarez explained to the audience that being able to write and reach others can be a powerful gift. She stated, "You use this skill set that you've been given ... and with it you serve."

Alvarez also answered questions from a packed audience. Students taking an honors seminar that focused exclusively on her work were able to interact with her during the lecture,

and beforehand during a meet-and-greet.

Associate Professor of English Lisa Nevarez, Ph.D., taught the honors class. She said the seminar format allowed her to facilitate sustained, in-depth conversations about Alvarez's literary achievement. "The benefit (of Alvarez's visit) is that the literature comes alive," Nevarez added.

Students were encouraged by Alvarez to pose whatever question came to mind. When asked how she felt when she heard a class was being taught about her novels, Alvarez admitted that her first thought was "... but I'm not dead yet!" Alvarez added that having a course designed around her work is gratifying and compels her to keep creating.

During the meet-and-greet, Alvarez provided details about her writing style, explained which fictional characters she most enjoyed developing and described the passion she has for what she does. "People say, 'You write



every day?' I say, 'if you're a mother do you stop being a mother some of the days?' Writing is a calling. It's a way of being," Alvarez said.

Michelle Campbell '13, who was enrolled in Nevarez's honors seminar, spoke directly with Alvarez during the event. "I learned that writing isn't always a relaxing process. It takes dedication, focus and the willingness to sacrifice," said Campbell.

The author also offered some perspective about pursuing one's biggest dreams and deepest desires. Alvarez wished someone would have said to her, "Just have a good life. Try to find your passion, connect with it and then try to figure out a way to support your habit."

## Trashion Fashion

This April, the Creative Arts Department and Stage III hosted the fifth annual Hollywood Trashion Fashion event, sponsored by the Student Events Board, Residential Life and Environmental Club. This year's event featured 41 contestants who created their outfits from trash. Costumes were judged based on runway style, design and creative use of materials.



## Spike Heels and The Children's Hour

During the spring semester the Creative Arts Department presented two shows, *The Children's Hour* and *Spike Heels*.





## Student Awarded International Scholarship

By Jim Eaton

Oseia Seaforth '15 has been awarded a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to study Hindi language and Public Health in Pune, India during the Fall 2013 semester.

"I am excited to take a public health and environmental perspectives class in India," she said. "It will be a great opportunity for me as I pursue my career as a health care professional."

The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship is one of the most prestigious study abroad scholarships available to United States students. Eight Siena students have participated in this program since 2011.

Seaforth recently returned to the United States from a study tour guided by Siena faculty to Paris, Amsterdam and Bruges. More information about this trip and other adventures of Siena students can be found at the Saints Beyond blog ([www.saintsbeyond.com](http://www.saintsbeyond.com)).

## First-Year Scholars Shine

By Elise Fernandez '13

As the spring semester drew to a close, more than 60 first-year students shared their research with members of the Siena community at an annual conference showcasing their work. Their research interests ranged from history to popular culture, from women's issues to war, from public policy to the human impact on the environment and from social justice to the idea of the beautiful.

"It's important that we give our students opportunities to present their work publicly. In this way, we all benefit," said Professor of English and Director of the First-Year Seminar Meg Woolbright, D.A. "It's also important for faculty to hear the topics that the freshmen are working on, so we can continue to encourage research beyond the freshman year."

Katherine Considine '16 said her freshman seminar class was 'On the Beautiful' taught by professor of philosophy Dr. Paul Santilli.



During class, students questioned the definition and meaning of beauty and discussed personal and societal views in different cultures and during different time periods. "My fellow students and I explored topics we were interested in and became experts on the subject and how it relates to beauty," Considine said.

Siena College's First-Year Seminar introduces incoming students to college-level work and encourages them to consider new perspectives. "I personally loved freshman seminar," said Considine. "The class challenged me to think of the ideals and beliefs of different people and societies from around the world."



# Science Education Programs Make the Grade

By Ken Jubie '04

Siena College's science teacher preparation programs in biology, chemistry and physics have been fully recognized by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The program is now accredited without conditions for the next five years and is listed on the NCATE website as a nationally certified program. The biology, chemistry and physics education programs met all national professional standards for the preparation of science teachers.

After a rigorous review, Siena's Education Department was also recognized by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA). "This is the highest recommendation that a program can achieve," said

Education Department Senior Research Analyst for Assessment and Outcomes and lead author of the assessment report Doreen Dedjoe. This is the first time that Siena's science education programs have received unconditional approval by NSTA. It is an honor achieved by only 231 universities and colleges throughout the country since 2005. Siena College is one of three NCATE/NSTA accredited programs in New York's Capital Region.

"NCATE and NSTA accreditation solidifies our commitment to providing the best undergraduate experience in science teacher preparation and certification," said School of Science Dean Allan Weatherwax, Ph.D.



"Being involved in a field experience each semester developed my skills as a facilitator in a classroom of diverse learners," said Physics Education Major Liza Villanueva '14. "Each education course I take shapes my method of instruction as I learn more about physics, the education system and most importantly, the students."

By providing science education majors with unique experiences for hands-on, experiential learning, Siena College's nationally accredited programs are developing qualified and passionate teachers who can mentor and motivate the biology, chemistry and physics majors of the future.

## Siena Honored by Alzheimer's Association

By Ken Jubie '04

The Northeastern New York Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association recognized Siena College with the Corporate Philanthropy Award during its annual Reason to Hope Gala. Siena College President and Alzheimer's Association Board Member Fr. Kevin Mullen '75, O.F.M., Ph.D. accepted the award.

"It is a tremendous honor to receive this award. Partnering with members of the local community to serve those in need is at the core of the Franciscan tradition and the mission of Siena College," said Mullen. "I am proud that the College community has

embraced this important cause and I'm humbled to receive this recognition from the Alzheimer's Association."

Last year, Siena hosted the Capital Region Walk to End Alzheimer's, which gave the Alzheimer's Association a beautiful, accessible location for its fundraiser. Along with providing a venue, the College community gave support that far exceeded what the Alzheimer's association expected.

"When we moved the Walk to End Alzheimer's to Siena, we



thought we were getting a new location. In a short time though, we realized that our organization had also received a new family of thousands," said Alzheimer's Association Northeastern New York Executive Director and CEO Elizabeth Smith-Boivin '82.



## Disagreement Leads to Discovery

“My project is designed to explore more carefully the relationship between intellectual disagreement and our capacity to be open-minded,” Alexander said. His research focuses on the role that situational factors and specific intellectual and contextual perspectives play in someone’s capacity to be open-minded when another person is not like-minded.

To support his research, Alexander has been awarded a two-year grant valued at more than \$110,000 from the Fuller Theological

By Ken Jubie '04

“Agree to disagree.” It’s the clichéd line you might hear when people reach an impasse in an argument or debate. But, when they have the same information, why do people disagree in the first place? The answer to that question is what Assistant Professor of Philosophy Joshua Alexander, Ph.D. is trying to uncover through his research on intellectual humility.

Seminary/Thrive Center for Human Development in concert with the John Templeton Foundation.

“We hold certain beliefs that are explicitly rejected by others, and do so even when exposed to all of the same kinds of evidence and arguments,” said Alexander, an epistemologist who has taught at Siena College since 2008.

Alexander hopes that by having a better understanding of what factors influence a person’s capacity to be open-minded in the face of cognitive diversity, he’ll be able to help people better understand the philosophical significance of intellectual disagreement. His research is motivated by the desire to determine “not only what we should do when we disagree, but what disagreement can do for us,” said Alexander.

Alexander is planning to bring his research into the classroom as well. He is designing a course on intellectual disagreement.

“When we welcomed Josh Alexander to our department in 2008 we knew we had hired a passionate educator who would excite students and inspire them to explore the nature of consciousness, knowledge and reason,” said Professor of Philosophy and Department Chair Jenny McErlean, Ph.D. “Students find Dr. Alexander to be not only extremely well-prepared and thorough, but ready to inject humor into all phases of learning.”

Most importantly, Alexander said sharing his research and connecting with students in the classroom allows him to help them become better educated and, in the process, become better people. Given those results, even the most astute among us will have a hard time agreeing to disagree with his approach.

Follow first-hand student adventures in research, service, travel and more on the new Saints Beyond blog at [www.saintsbeyond.com](http://www.saintsbeyond.com).

# A Poll Fit to Print

By Jim Eaton

The Siena College Research Institute is collaborating with *The New York Times* on the 2013 New York City Mayoral Election Surveys. The series of polls will gauge the attitude of New York City voters on the candidates and issues in the major party primary elections.

“We have been fortunate to work with many media partners on surveys across New York state. Our partnership with The New York Times provides us with an opportunity to collaborate with some of the best journalists and pollsters in the world,” said Dr. Don Levy, Director of the Siena Research Institute. “We look

forward to developing and providing data and analysis that will help inform New Yorkers as the Big Apple selects its next mayor.”

The institute’s first poll was released on July 18 and results showed that Christine Quinn leads the pack among democrats and former Congressman Anthony Weiner is in second place. It also showed that a majority of people polled are ‘satisfied’ with the mayoral candidates but remain split on whether any can be “Larger Than Life” personalities like many past mayors.



## CAUTION: CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

By Brittany Danko '14

The sound of dump trucks and jack hammers can be heard around campus as Siena continues to improve its facilities this summer. In addition to the completion of Rosetti Hall which will open this fall and will house Siena’s sociology, social work and education programs, the following are works in progress.



Sidewalks are being built along Route 9 to provide students a safer path for pedestrian travel to and from Newton Plaza. In an effort to reduce the traffic on Route 9 in front of the College and to enable vehicles to traverse the east side of campus, a loop road is being constructed that will run from Spring Street behind the MAC to Friars Road.

Additionally, the old state police barracks across the street on Route 9 has been renovated into The Trustco Bank Center at Siena College and is providing new administrative and ROTC office space. Renovations are also underway to enhance the living conditions in MacClosky townhouses,



as well as in Hennepin and Ryan Halls. The residential quad is being beautified and storm water improvements are being made as part of an environmental project to protect our campus and neighbors during extensive rain events.



# Dog Bites

## Baseball

Mike Fish '13 (pictured) led the Saints to the MAAC Championship game for the second time in three years. Fish, who was selected in the 32nd round of June's Major League Baseball Draft by the Los Angeles Angels, became the eighth Saint to be named MAAC Baseball Player of the Year and just the second All-American in any sport in the College's Division I history. He led the conference in home runs (12), hits (81), runs scored (54), total bases (136) and slugging percentage (.602); ranked second in the league in RBI (50) and doubles (17); and ranked fifth in average (.358). Southpaw Matt Gage '16 broke John Lannan's '06 single-season strikeout record (88) and is spending his summer pitching for Chatham in the Cape Cod League.

## Softball

The Saints won the MAAC regular-season championship for the first time in program history, and earned the top seed in the conference tournament. Head coach Bill Lajeunesse was named MAAC and Siena College Coach of the Year after turning around the program in just three years. Jessika-Jo Sandrini '15, Shannon Jones '13 and Paige Lloyd '15 each earned MAAC First Team accolades. Jones hit .387 (1st all-time) with 229 hits (1st), 34 home runs (2nd) and 154 RBI (1st) over her stellar career.

## Men's Lacrosse

Under second year head coach John Svec, Siena reached the MAAC Championship game for the fifth straight season. The Saints suffered a gut-wrenching overtime loss to Detroit in the MAAC final, but had several team and individual highlights throughout the season. On April 23, Siena knocked off 10th ranked UAlbany at home, the highest ranked opponent the team has ever defeated. Danny Martinsen '13 was a Senior CLASS Award Candidate and Tewaaron Award Watch List selection. He joined classmate Matt Sharp '13 in the annual USILA/Lax World Division I/II North/South All-Star game. Colin Clive '14 and Conor Prunty '15 (pictured) were named to the MAAC First Team.

## Men's Basketball

Jimmy Patsos' first few months as Siena head coach have been a whirlwind. Patsos' hiring brought intense media coverage including an interview with Jim Rome at the Final Four. He's also found time to meet with Siena fans and alumni across the country.





# Spring Maker

By Jarrel Harris '14

Most college students head south for the beaches over spring break, but freshman volleyball player Erin Bies '16 found herself on dirt roads in the slums of Africa.

Erin traveled with her parents and sister Julie to Ethiopia for a service trip with Operation Hearts and Home, a nonprofit organization that provides orphans with medical and dental care, and the education needed to help live successful lives.

"It's very shocking," Bies said. "There's not a lot of opportunities for the kids when they get out of the orphanage."

After a 14-hour flight to Dubai, a six-hour layover, and a six-hour flight to Ethiopia, Erin was physically and mentally drained. She was so ill that she was forced to check into a hospital in Ethiopia twice, but her sickness did not distract her from her goal.

"During the day, I put a smile on," Bies said. "I knew I was sick, but being with the kids took my mind off everything."

She was on a mission to help brighten lives. "The kids have so little, but they're so happy. They're just thankful for the time that you give them. They tell you they love you when you spend just a day with them," she said.

Erin enjoys playing volleyball at Siena and, like most college students, hanging out with her friends and reading the "Hunger Games." She appeared in 27 competitions for a Siena team that won 21 games and advanced to the MAAC Championship in the fall. She looks forward to an increased role for the Saints' back row next season after the graduation of seven seniors this year.

She's also thinking about her next service trip having identified Kenya as a possibility. "Anywhere that needs help, that's the place I want to go," Bies said.

# Enhancing the Student Athlete Experience

By Lori Jancik



Siena's student athletes routinely achieve success in varsity sports competitions, but they're also mindful that there is life after college. Despite their packed schedules, they know it is imperative that they show prospective employers that they're leaders not only on the field, on the court or in the pool but in other venues as well. Internships, community service, research projects and

overseas study all demonstrate that they are prepared

to go above and beyond what is expected of them.

This spring, student athletes attended national Student Athlete Advisory Committee events and three of them were accepted into the selective NCAA Career in Sports Forum. During the summer, internship employers included Ayco, Global Foundries, the Albany Dutchmen, Deloitte, Credit Suisse, the Boys & Girls Club of America and New York Life, to name a few.

Caroline Bertholf '14 (cross country) and Michael Sutton '14 (golf) served as summer legal fellows at American University and Pace University. Members of the cross-country team took the baton of scientific research and ran with it as Nick Grudev '15 participated in food science research, Christie MacFarlane '16 tested algae in vernal ponds as a barometer of environmental health and Chelsea Needham '15 explored the ecology of marine worms.



Above: Cross Country runner Caroline Bertholf '14 (left) with Ed Henry '95, senior white house correspondent for Fox News. Right: Tennis's Carly Holloway '14, softball's Shannon Jones '13 and water polo's Melanie Boehrig '14 attended the 2013 NCAA Career in Sports Forum June 8-11. Siena tied the University of Oregon and the University of Louisville for the most participants among all Division I schools.



**Matt Bellis, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, secured a \$204,000 National Science Foundation grant to collaborate on research with Cornell University and the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS)

collaboration for a physics experiment being performed at the world's most powerful particle accelerator in Geneva, Switzerland.

"This grant is an opportunity to engage students in science and technology," Bellis said. He plans to offer research slots to as many as four students a year over the course of the three-year grant.

The grant will allow Siena students to learn valuable analytic and computing techniques while actively contributing to searches for new physics. The Siena group will work with ongoing efforts within the CMS collaboration that focus on data preservation and how these data might be used for innovative outreach efforts.

**Chester Brearey, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of accounting, was among a select group of faculty invited to participate in the PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP 2013 Accounting Symposium, which was held at the Laguna Cliffs Marriott Resort in Dana Point, California in August 2013. The Symposium is designed to provide faculty members with the opportunity to connect with PwC subject matter experts on a variety of accounting issues. The curriculum is specifically developed for financial accounting and auditing faculty and focuses on current technical updates and issues facing the profession. At the conclusion of the program, participants identified current topics that impact their curricula and will incorporate these topics into their own courses.



**Maryellen Gilroy, Ed.D.**, vice president for student affairs, received the Women of Excellence Award in the category of "Excellence in Management," from The Women's Business Council of the Albany-Colonie

Regional Chamber. The Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber recognizes a select few women annually for progressions in their careers, involvement in their

communities and their personal and professional accomplishments. "Excellence is a shared endeavor, something we rise toward when ability, opportunity and the influences of others coalesce at just the right moment and in just the right ways," Gilroy said. She was nominated by her peers and colleagues, and was selected by a board of award-recipients from past Women of Excellence ceremonies.

**Tom Kelly**, professor emeritus of history and American studies and **Doug Lonnstrom '66, Ph.D.**, professor of quantitative business analysis have written a book titled "US Presidents From Awesome to Awful: The Best 3 in a Row and the Worst 3 in a Row." The authors asked department heads at other colleges and universities to select history and political science professors to judge presidential history based on 20 categories of measurement.

The book can be purchased by sending a \$29.95 check made payable to Siena College. The authors are donating \$9 of each book sold to Siena College. It will be published this fall and could make an excellent Christmas gift. Please send your check to the Alumni Relations Office, 515 Loudon Road, Loudonville, NY 12211 with a note that it is for the book.

**Max Levine, Ph.D.**, associate professor of psychology, was featured in the June 17 edition of *The Wall Street Journal* for his research on motion sickness. The article had over 6,500,000 unique visitors online and can be viewed at <http://online.wsj.com>.

**Jodi L. O'Donnell, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of chemistry, and **Lucas J. Tucker, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of chemistry, received a Multi-Investigator Cottrell College Science Award from Research Corporation for Science Advancement. These awards help to fund research teams of faculty and students, and promote basic research as a necessary component of undergraduate education. The hope is that participating undergraduates will be encouraged to pursue careers in science and personally benefit from the experience of collaborative learning. The Cottrell College Science Awards, which are carefully reviewed by top scientists, have supported the research of more than 1,500 scientists in 400 institutions. O'Donnell,

Tucker and their students will be trying to create chromophoric liquid crystalline chemical sensors, which reveal the presence of various types of volatile organic compounds (VOCs).



**Ausra Park, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of political science, has been awarded a short-term travel grant from IREX,

a prestigious organization that focuses on the strengthening of civil society, conflict resolution, education, gender, media development and youth. Her research project titled, “Politics of Human Trafficking: Governments’ Political Games and NGO’s,” will examine challenges that Lithuania faces in addressing modern day slavery problems.

The grant will cover travel to Lithuania for eight weeks as well as insurance, living expenses and a visa. “I was stunned to receive this grant as it is a very competitive process,” she said. Park began studying the topic of human trafficking in 2007.

**Paul Thurston, Ph.D.**, associate professor of management and **Erik Eddy, Ph.D.**, associate professor of management received the 2012 Richard A. Swanson Research Excellence Award from the Academy of Human Resource Development for their paper, “Mentoring as an HRD Approach: Effects on Employee Attitudes and Contributions Independent of Core Self-Evaluation,” which consistently received top rankings in a comprehensive two-tiered review process.

## Siena honored the following community members at the annual Faculty-Administrator Dinner on May 4, 2013.



### **Jerome Walton Award for Excellence in Teaching**

John O'Neill, Ph.D., associate professor of quantitative business analysis and mathematics



### **Raymond Kennedy Excellence in Scholarship Award**

Allan Weatherwax, Ph.D., dean of the school of science and professor of physics and astronomy



### **Fr. Matthew T. Conlin, O.F.M. Distinguished Service Award**

Meg Woolbright, D.A., professor of English



### **James Knust Award for Excellence in Administration**

Br. Brian Belanger, O.F.M., Ph. D., director, international programs

Edward Travis, assistant director, services



To view a video of this event and a preview of Tom Kelly and Doug Lonnstrom's book visit [sienanewsmag.com](http://sienanewsmag.com).



To see more photos from reunion weekend visit flickr.com keyword search Siena College Reunion 2013.



# Putting On Their Old Green Bonnets

Siena College welcomed back to campus 800 alumni and family members on the first weekend of June. Whether alumni were five, 25 or 50 years out, most had fond memories of their experience on campus. "This weekend simply reinforced the fact that one of the greatest decisions I've ever made was attending Siena College. The school may have changed, but the philosophy, the heart of the College has not. I am so proud of what my classmates and I have accomplished personally and professionally," Michael McCartney '88 said.

Reunion Weekend 2013 celebrated 75 Years of The Education of Lifetime. It marked the close of a year-long remembrance of Siena's history. "A record number of alumni volunteered to serve on their class committees and worked all year to assist with fundraising for their class gift and outreach to classmates to attend reunion," Mary Beth Finnerty '85, director of alumni relations said.

## Highlights of the weekend included:



### Distinguished Alumni Award Honorees

**William E. Redmond '53, Esq.**  
The Reverend Benjamin Kuhn, O.F.M Award for Service to the Siena Community

**Jerry DeFrancisco '68**  
The Professor Joseph Buff Award for Career Achievement

**Stephen Obermayer '83**  
The Professor Joseph Buff Award for Career Achievement

**Elvira Altimari Jaeger '83**  
The Reverend Benjamin Kuhn, O.F.M Award for Service to the Siena Community

**Louis Ianniello '83, M.D.**  
The Egon Plager Award for Accomplishments in Advancing the Welfare of Others

**Andrew Heck '88**  
The Reverend Benjamin Kuhn, O.F.M. Award for Service to the Siena Community



### Reunion Fundraising Highlights

- At just over \$400,000 from 787 gifts, reunion giving accounted for 22 percent of the total amount raised for the Annual Fund.
- The largest gift was from the Class of 1968 at \$121,673.
- For their 20th reunion, the Class of 1993 boosted their number of President's Circle members to 20.

Next year's reunion, which honors alumni with class years ending in a 4 or 9, will be held June 6-8, 2014.



To view a video of the award recipients visit [www.sienanewsmag.com](http://www.sienanewsmag.com).

# Planting the Seeds of a New Company

By Jodi Ackerman Frank

James Pater '12 and Shane McMahon '12 didn't consider starting their own company when they were students here. Yet, their journey into entrepreneurship between their undergraduate and graduate studies was a seamless transition.

In April, they established Eonic, a company that has developed an ionic liquid electrolyte to increase energy storage in ultracapacitors. Pater and McMahon, who both majored in physics at Siena, are now graduate students at SUNY's College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE). They cofounded Eonic with two CNSE Ph.D. candidates.

"I never thought I'd do anything in business, but seeing the cross-pollination between technology and entrepreneurship at CNSE sparked our interest," said Pater.

Pater and McMahon said the seed began to germinate at Siena, largely under the guidance of Allan Weatherwax, Ph.D., dean of the School of Science.

"His collaborations with many colleges and universities, including CNSE, are what really brought us to where we are now," McMahon said.

Eonic's four founders took first place in

the Energy & Sustainability category at the 2013 New York Business Plan Competition, held at CNSE, winning more than \$13,000 in cash and prizes. Eonic is working with a global ultracapacitor company to test the new electrolyte on a commercial scale.

Ultracaps can be used to support batteries in many electronics. Increasing their energy storage capacity results in a more efficient and higher powered device. The company is betting that its product will expand the ultracap market for a variety of sustainable-energy technologies, from photovoltaics and wind power to electric cars.

Although immersed in his graduate studies and the challenges of running a business, Pater said he thinks about his education at Siena often.

"I don't think I ever respected my Siena education as much as I do now," he said. "It has prepared me for the business interactions I have on a regular basis in a way that I don't think a strictly high-tech school could have done."

"We really encourage all our students to look beyond the classroom. When you're 18 to 20 years old, the whole world is in front of you," said Weatherwax, who still keeps in touch with both students. "That's why the foundation of a liberal arts education that Siena offers is so important. It provides a diverse set of skills and opens a student's eyes to lots of possibilities."

For more information on the start-up company visit [www.eonicllc.com](http://www.eonicllc.com).

SIENA  
**GIVES  
BACK**  
APRIL 10, 2013

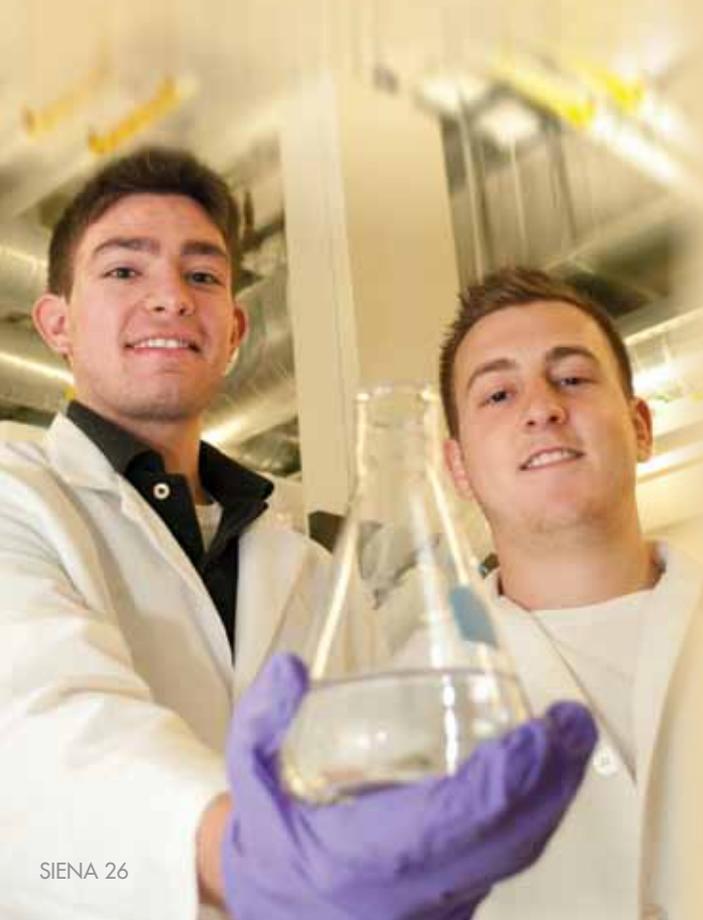
## Rising to the Challenge

A record 618 members of the Siena community came together to raise nearly \$125,000 for Siena Gives Back Day on April 10.

Siena Trustee Ginny Darrow '83 pledged \$25,000 if 410 donations were secured. In true Siena spirit, other alumni and friends joined in and made challenges of their own. Mark and Karen DeBlieux '83 Vachon pledged \$10,000 if fellow donors raised another \$10,000 total by noon, Tom and Regina Burke, parents of two current students, promised an additional \$10,000 if Siena reached 510 donors. When the clock struck midnight, all goals had been met.

To view Thank You videos from students, visit [siena.edu/sienagivesback](http://siena.edu/sienagivesback)

*Siena Gives Back Day illustration by Mike Valiquette '14.*



# Siena's Six Under 40



Six alumni were among the *Albany Business Review's* 40 Under Forty this past May. The annual recognition spotlights young, dynamic men and women who, according to the *Business Review*, "demonstrate business acumen, leadership skills and community involvement."

Siena's honorees include: Chris Conway '97 (Vice President of Business Development for North America and Europe, AMRI), Todd Curley '97 (Partner, Prime Cos.), Michael Durant '00 (State Director, National Federation of Independent Business), George LaMarche III '97 (Managing Partner, LaMarche Safranko Law PLLC), Christopher Litchfield '97 (President, Siena Fence Co.) and Neerav Patel '00 (Chief Operating Officer, Empire Broadcasting Corp.).

# Patsos on the Go



Above, Siena's new men's basketball coach Jimmy Patsos poses with members of Siena's Baltimore/Washington, D.C. alumni chapter as part of a Meet the Coach Tour in early June.

The following is a list of scholarships and endowed funds that were established from November 16, 2012 - June 1, 2013 through the generosity of alumni and friends of Siena College. A minimum gift of \$30,000 is required to name a scholarship at Siena.

## Scholarships

### The Boyle Family Scholarship

Steven P. '67 and Rosemarie Boyle



### The DiCresce Family Scholarship

Gary P. '71 and Nancy DiCresce

### The Richard E. Sr. '55 and Jean G. Fitzgerald Scholarship

Richard E. Sr. '55 and Jean G. Fitzgerald

### The Raymond Vincent and Frances Geoghan Reamer Scholarship

Fr. Mark G. Reamer '83, O.F.M., and Jean Reamer Keam '76

### The Francis L. '58 and Esther Roddy Family / Netrition, Inc. Scholarship

Francis L. '58 and Esther Roddy and Netrition, Inc. Bernard P. Roddy, President

### The Edwin T. Sells '68 Memorial Scholarship

Eveline Ward-Sells

## Endowed Funds

### The Fr. Peter Fiore, O.F.M., Excellence in English Endowment

William P. '68 and Elizabeth C. McGoldrick

### The Dr. Margaret P. Hannay Honors Student Fund

Anonymous Donors

### Men's Lacrosse Endowment

Alumni, Parents and Friends

### Women's Lacrosse Endowment

Alumni, Parents and Friends

### Women's Soccer Endowment

Alumni, Parents and Friends

# You're Invited...

to join over 500 of your fellow alumni and friends who have created their Legacy at Siena College.

Each of us has our own unique relationship with the College. You may have arrived on campus as an 18-year-old wide-eyed student or as a Vet taking advantage of the GI Bill. Perhaps it was your son or daughter who attended Siena and graduated four years later with a Siena degree and the ability to compete with the best and brightest students in graduate/professional school or become successful business owners and leaders in their community.

As you reflect on the impact Siena College has had on you, I encourage you to “pay it forward” so generations of future Siena students can realize their “Siena experience.”

For information on ways to give, please visit the College website at [www.siena.edu](http://www.siena.edu) or contact me for a confidential meeting to create your Legacy at Siena.



John R. Sise, Esq. '75

## Biochemistry is Hard, Planned Giving is Easy



For more information  
contact: John R. Sise, Esq. '75  
Director of Gift Planning  
(518) 783-2315  
[jsise@siena.edu](mailto:jsise@siena.edu)



# ALUMNI

# class notes

Editors: Mary Beth Finnerty '85, director of alumni relations, Lori Lasch '06, assistant director of alumni relations, and Eileen Verno '12, coordinator of alumni relations/special events.

Please submit all of your class notes information to your class coordinator; or, if there is no coordinator listed for your class, please send all information to alumni@siena.edu for posting in the magazine. We look forward to hearing from you!

## 1949

Congratulations to Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist **William Kennedy**. His novel *Roscoe* will become an opera. The novel is set in Albany, N.Y. in 1945, and is the fictional examination of the O'Connell-Corning democratic machine.

## 1951

**John Hourigan**  
joninca@comcast.net

## 1954

**Carmen Viglucci** has published his memoir *Albany Street Kid* sharing memories of his early years growing up in Albany, N.Y. in the late thirties and forties. He worked at newspapers across the state, including the Albany Times Union. His earliest stint was on the sports desk at the Siena paper.

## 1959

**Frank Martin**  
fmartin@nycap.rr.com

## 1961

**Tom Pillsworth** was honored by the American Red Cross as a 2013 Legacy recipient for his humanitarian contributions during the war in Baghdad in 2005. He performed the sensitive and difficult job of delivering emergency messages from military families in the U.S. to service members in Iraq. The "Our Legacy Continues Project" was created to honor Red Cross members who served with the military. Tom began volunteering with the Red Cross in 1998 and was among the Red Cross first responders at

ground zero after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

## 1963

**Kevin Raymond**  
Kraymond27@comcast.net

The class reunion and celebration of our 50th anniversary was simply fabulous. I hadn't been on campus in 45 years. The grounds were immaculate and buildings were well placed and built to last forever. The staff put in a tremendous amount of work and imagination to pull together all of the dinners and parties and picnics. The friars, along with President Fr. Kevin Mullen, O.F.M., were especially affable in their comments and personal interchanges. The conversations with classmates were memorable. Even **Tom Donato**, whom I didn't know very well, accepted my offer of \$20.00 to start a standing ovation for me when my name was called. But he was the only one standing. I will owe him the \$20.00 for next time.

**Frank Gadek** checked in. He could not come to reunion but would love to hear from you.

I ask that everyone from the class of '63 who reads this, please consider sending in a note about how you are doing. EVERYONE WANTS TO KNOW. Many of us are retired and have a lifetime of memories and loved ones to talk about. Just a few sentences in an email will plug you into the rest of the class who read this. Please let us all know how you are doing!

## 1965

**Jack Mulvey**  
jkmulvey@gmail.com  
**Paul Merges**  
pmerges@nycap.rr.com

## 1966

**James Barba** received the 2013 Citizen Laureate Award from the University at Albany Foundation. The award recognizes outstanding leaders in business, government and academia. Congratulations!

## 1967

**Rick Spataro**  
rspataro67@gmail.com

## 1968

**Thomas Getman** checked in! "Walking 18 holes a day, at least five super senior tournaments a month. If you are in Georgia and want to play, let me know." Sounds great, Tom!

## 1969

**Joe Condon** was presented with the Community Service Award from the Center for Donation and Transplant of New York in April. He is the public affairs director at Albany Broadcasting, Inc. Joe hosts the weekly public affairs show "The Subject Matters" for ION TV stations in Albany, Syracuse and Buffalo.

## 1970

**Bob Hermann**  
Rher311@aol.com

## 1971

**Nicholas Positano**  
nijpositano@gmail.com

## 1972

**Jackcallahan33@gmail.com**

**Bruce Gembala** retired in April 2012 after a 35-year career with the New York State Office of the Medicaid Inspector General. He headed the Bureau of Provider Audit which had statewide responsibility for the audit of Medicaid fees for service providers. Bruce lives in Loudonville, not too far from campus, with his wife Maryanne and two playful Samoyeds.

**Jules Comeau, D.D.S.**, retired last year after a 35-year career practicing dentistry. He now keeps busy volunteering with the local dental society and St. Henry's Church. He enjoys skiing several times a week during the winter, hiking and kayaking during the rest of the year, along with being an occasional substitute teacher at his children's school. He lives in Long Lake, N.Y. with his wife Betsy, who is a retired speech-language pathologist, and their 12 year old children.

Dear classmates, please send me any updates or news about your life. We all look forward to hearing from you!

## 1973

**Brian Valentine**  
bgvalentine@verizon.net

## 1974

**John Cahill** recently ended a 40-year career as a basketball referee, and has accepted a position as supervisor of officials for the new Big East Conference. His new role involves training, development and assigning of officials; conducting a rules clinic at each of the member schools; and traveling to game sites to evaluate crews and stay in

## MINI REUNION



Class of '79 had a mini-reunion enjoying a tour of the Jameson Distillery during a trip to Ireland in September 2012. The three couples who found love at Siena and have been close friends since are from left to right **Dave and Karen Beha Wentworth, Rich and Terry DuPre Sleasman and Mark and Jane Barnes Casale.**

contact with coaches and athletic directors. He will continue to practice law at his firm, Messina & Cahill in Slingerlands, N.Y.

## 1975

Janet Gutowski Hall  
Janet.hall@wku.edu

**David Kruczynski** retired as president and chief executive officer of Glens Falls Hospital in May after 24 years. He will continue to serve as president and chief executive officer of Adirondack Health Services, the parent company of Glens Falls Hospital.

## 1976

Jean Reamer  
jpreamer@comcast.net

**Pat Stout Smith and Charlie Smith** would like to share their joy with the graduations from Siena of their son Charlie '13 and their daughter Michele '12. Patty and Charlie are thrilled to see their children join them in the Siena tradition and welcome them to our alumni community. Michele is attending UB Medical, and Charlie will continue his education next year at Siena in the master's program for accounting.

**Jimmy McCarthy** checked in! He has been an attorney for the last 30 years specializing in medical malpractice. He and his wife of 24 years, Maria, have four children ages 22, 19, 16, and 12. Jim is hoping to come to our 40th reunion in 2016 and wants to give a shout-out to Liston, Loftus, Tolosky, Youngkin and the rest of the Class of 1976!

I regret to share with you the passing of two classmates this May. I believe most of you will remember these two wonderful ladies if you lived in Hennepin Hall or perhaps shared a class with them. Both ladies were resident assistants. **Anita Brown** was originally from Long Island but remained in the Albany, N.Y. area after college. Anita was a classy lady and will surely be remembered for her quick wit. She was a member of the first Siena women's NCAA basketball team. She worked as a principal budget examiner for the New York State Division of Budget for over 20 years before retiring in November. She is remembered for her professionalism, loyalty, compassion and her humor.

**Jane Goldner** was from Cortland, N.Y. and known for her smiles and fun-loving, cheery disposition. I can picture her during our Siena days with her long golden red hair and freckles and remember her kind ways and upbeat attitude. One of her favorite phrases was, "If you are lucky enough to be Irish, you are lucky enough." A mother of two boys, Jane retired as the director of Cortland County Probation Department in 2009. Jane also worked with the Office for the Aging and Foster Care in Cayuga County. She was an active member of St. Mary's Church in Cortland. The Siena community extends our condolences to the families of Anita and Jane. Please join me in remembering Anita and Jane in your prayers and thoughts.

The classes of '75 and '76 have always had a strong bond, and we'd like to wish the class of '75 a happy 60th birthday!! Rumor has it that

Greg Bell '75 will be celebrating his 60th birthday at the 20th anniversary of his annual "Bellstock" music festival this summer. Woodstock lives on!!

## 1977

Linda Fitzsimmons  
lindafitzsimmons@gmail.com

## 1978

Rick Gabriel  
rgabrielsyr@gmail.com

## 1979

Sue Reilly Hayes  
Clifton522@aol.com

Six of our classmates shared a great vacation in Ireland together in September 2012. The three couples who found love at Siena and have been close friends since our undergrad days are **Dave and Karen Beha Wentworth, Rich and Terri DuPre Sleasman, and Mark and Jane Barnes Casale.**

**Elizabeth Bouchard** has been a librarian for over 20 years, currently serving as a reference librarian at Maria College in Albany, N.Y., and a catalog librarian at the Bethlehem Public Library in Delmar, N.Y. The New York Library Association recently honored her with the 2012 Excellence in Library Innovation Award, which recognizes librarians who have been creative, innovative or visionary in the field of academic or special librarianship. The award was presented for her work cataloguing Maria College historical documents, for winning a grant for the college to participate in the New York Heritage digitization project, and for publishing an academic paper on the school's Monastery of the Immaculate Conception in the American Catholic Studies Journal. The association granted the honor for completing an intensive, multiphase project for a small library. Congratulations, Elizabeth!

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of the death of one of my dearest friends, our classmate, **Kevin McAleese**. Kevin passed away on February 15, 2013 after a courageous battle with brain cancer. His beloved friend **Patty Lewis** was with him when he died. I attended Kevin's wake and funeral in Philadelphia, along with Siena friends Patty, Rick Gabriel '78 and

his wife Nadine Zaloom Gabriel '80, **Lorrie Scardino, Pete Hansen** and his wife Andrea Pedro Hansen '80, and **Chip Davy**. We toasted Kev and talked about how he would've thoroughly enjoyed the gathering in his honor. It was great to hear friends and associates from all areas of his life—family, work, Army, volunteer commitments—share personal reflections on what Kevin had meant to them. He touched many lives and is sorely missed.

I am also deeply saddened to report the January 7, 2013 death of another classmate, **Ann Marie Dyer**. This news comes from **Pam Moroukian**, who was searching for her friend online and sadly came across her obituary. Ann Marie was a biology major and, like Kevin, an ROTC scholarship student. She began her medical career in the army and later served in a variety of nursing administration positions, most recently as director of clinical services at Heritage Park Rehabilitation & Healthcare, Fort Myers, Fla. Our condolences go out to her four children and other family members. Pam writes, "For most of us from 1979, staying in touch was hard work and sometimes only by accident. I eventually settled in Chicago where, although I am still far from my family in upstate New York, I am 850 miles closer to my dear friend, **Jane Ann Jackson Walsh**. We met as freshmen on the first day of the first class at Siena. Two kids from upstate New York, bio majors, one commuter, one Hennepin dormer. Thankfully we were both dedicated letter writers and while our lives took us in different directions, ironically we both settled in Illinois. Today, Jane heads up an incredible non-profit, Children of Hope and Faith, an organization that helps orphans and needy children in Tanzania."

I'll close with Pam's reflective words, which are worth pondering and acting on, "I don't know about you, but if there is someone you have always been meaning to "look up," then let 2013 be your year of happy remembering and rekindling. With a little effort, the internet and prayer, today it is possible to reconnect with those classmates and friends who shaped us, challenged us, gave us our first crushes and broken hearts, and with whom we had laughter, adventures and many happy memories. It's worth it. Best wishes to you all."

## NEWSMAKER



Russell Clark '80, CFO of Presbyterian Homes & Services, Inc. was named the Central New York Financial Executive of the Year by the Bonadio Group.

## NEWSMAKER



Thomas Murphy '80 is CEO of Arrow Financial. Arrow ranked No. 28, of more than 240 mid-sized banking companies on the ABA Banking Journal's list.

## NEWSMAKER



Timothy Elwell '83 was named CEO of Qualidigm a national health care consulting company headquartered in Wethersfield, CT.

## NEWSMAKER



Gavin Dougherty '85 has written a new book called *Alzheimer's Moments: Memories From A Caregiver's Diary* documenting his return home to upstate N.Y. to watch over his mother suffering from Alzheimer's disease. It documents her life, particularly those poignant and humorous experiences that occurred along the way, and the daily ups and downs of being a primary caregiver.

## 1980

Diane DeSilva  
diane0429@gmail.com

Joanne Fitzpatrick Maloy and her husband Jack Maloy '76 were honored with the Family Service and Volunteerism Award from the Academy of the Holy Names, a Catholic college preparatory school for young women in Albany, N.Y.

James J. Clark, Ph.D., LCSW, recently joined the University of Cincinnati College of Allied Health Sciences as director of the UC School of Social Work.

Russell Clark, CFO of Presbyterian Homes & Services, Inc. was named the Central New York Financial Executive of the Year by the Bonadio Group. The award is given to a financial professional for outstanding performance in their role as corporate financial steward. Clark, who received the award June 27 at a ceremony in Syracuse, has been with Presbyterian Homes & Services for 24 years.

## 1981

Congratulations to David Palladino! On May 17, 2013, exactly 32 years to the day he graduated from Siena, David was awarded the honor of being named the 2013 Miami-Dade High School Science Teacher of the Year. He is celebrating his 18th year as a science teacher.

Mark Woroby, Vito Losito and Tim Johnson, along with their wives, enjoyed a mini reunion while celebrating Mark's birthday in February at a Siena men's basketball game!

## 1982

Bob Young  
ryj60@yahoo.com

## 1983

Elvira Altimari-Jaeger  
Eaj6@optonline.net

Spring at Siena was just as I remembered. The campus was bustling with alumni a few weeks ago as our class and others celebrated reunions. Although the landscape has changed since 1983, it was a bucolic setting and we all felt instantly at home again. It was a fun weekend catching up with old friends and reminiscing. There were about 100 '83ers who came to events – a great turnout for a 30th reunion – but we missed a lot of classmates who had graduations and other commitments and were unable to be there. Special thanks to the Alumni Relations Office for a great job and the reunion com-

mittee who put the extra special touches to the celebration. Megga kudos go to Rosemary Schiavo Chersi for putting together a spectacular photo slideshow which brought us all back to the early 80's (what were we thinking with that hair???) and our time at Siena. The slide show will eventually make its way to the website and the Alumni Relations Office will send out an email to alert us. Check the college website for photos of the reunion. Special congratulations to Louis Ianniello and Stephen Obermayer who "distinguished" themselves and our class with special awards. I am not going to send any specific shout-outs – if you haven't been to a reunion ever or in a long time – you know who you are and the slide show is evidence of your existence - we thought about you on June 1st – we hope you thought about us too. You were missed and we hope you are able to come

in 2018 when we celebrate our 35th. Mark your calendars now – the older we get the faster time flies!

The Alumni Relations Office would like to add to this column to congratulate Elvira Altimari-Jaeger who also "distinguished" herself and your class with a special award.

## 1984

Lisa San Fratello McCutcheon  
mcclisa@yahoo.com

## 1985

Cathy Casey Bjorklund  
Ron Bjorklund  
Bjork90@comcast.net

## CLASS OF 1983 REUNION 2013 CLASS PARTY



## NEWSMAKER



Lewis A. Steverson '87 recently joined Corning, Inc., the world leader in specialty glass and ceramics, as senior vice president and general counsel.

## NEWSMAKER



Lawrence F. McMahon '88 was installed as president of the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP), an international trade association headquartered in Washington, D.C. He is executive vice president and surety manager of Alliant Insurance Services, Inc., one of the 15 largest insurance brokerage firms in the U.S.

## NEWSMAKER



The New York Capital Region Chapter of the American Marketing Association selected Tom Amell '89, president and COO of Pioneer Bank, as its 2013 Marketer of Excellence.

## 1986

Edward Giordano  
Edward86@thegiordanos.us

Susan Slattery  
susanslattery@gmail.com

Michelle Roche  
mroche@comcast.net

## 1987

Gerry McAndrew  
Geraldine.m.mcandrew@comcast.net

## 1988

Paula Cacossa Wang  
PC6888@comcast.net

## 1989

Mike Carbonaro  
Sienanews.1989@yahoo.com

**William Maloney** is a clinical associate professor at New York University College of Dentistry and is in private practice in Westchester County, N.Y. He has authored over 115 professional publications and has recently appeared in the documentary *Universal Babe* about baseball icon Babe Ruth. The documentary premiered at the New York Times Building in New York City.

## 1990

Janet Shotter Swierbut  
jswierbut@yahoo.com

**Tom Wronoski** is a business sales manager for Verizon Wireless. He was named to the company's president's cabinet for ranking in the top two percent of the company's more than 15,000 sales executives nationwide during 2012. Tom was one of just six people in upstate New York to earn the distinction for performance in sales and customer service nationally.

**Tim Ford**, who spent over 18 years at Yale University, has joined the University of Delaware athletics staff as senior associate athletics director and director of development for athletics.

## 1991

Kevin Clarke  
siena91@optonline.net

**Scott Wilson** is president and chief executive officer of SeaComm Federal Credit Union headquartered in Massena, N.Y. He was recently featured in *Profile Magazine*, a print and digital publication that identifies and promotes innovation in prominent American industries. The article which appeared in the November/December edition highlighted key strategies being used by the credit union, enabling it to be one of the top performers in the U.S. during the most recent economic downturn. SeaComm was also named Credit Union of the Year in 2012 by the National Association of Federal Credit Unions. Congratulations Scott!

## 1992

Mary Pat McLoughlin Holler  
jmpholler@yahoo.com

**Kris Bouchard McConville** recently opened the Law Office of Kris McConville, PLLC located in Scotia, N.Y. Congratulations Kris!

## 1993

Sue Hannon  
Shannon@ryeneck.k12.ny.us

What a blast reunion 2013 was! It was great to reconnect with so many of you! I must say I think we have all aged gracefully and I hope to say the same thing at the 50 year reunion! A big announcement was that our class had 20 people contribute \$1,000 or more to the annual fund! For those of you who missed it – we hope to see you at the big number 25.

One person who did miss it was **Jim Kaden**. He checked in to let us know he was promoted to assistant director for the Ice Arena and Outdoor Pool in the University of Delaware Athletics and Recreation Department. He is also an adjunct professor at University of Delaware in the Sports Management program as well as adjunct professor at Wilmington University.

Please forward me any updates that I didn't remember from the weekend and we'll get them in the next issue. Have a great summer!

## 1994

Glenn Hofsess  
gh@endcap.com

## 1995

Neil Wilcove  
nwilcove@fmglaw.com

After serving as a trial attorney for the United States Department of Justice for five years in Washington, D.C., **Dan Healy** rejoined the law firm Anderson, Kill & Olick, LLP, as counsel in August 2012. He litigates commercial cases across the country, with a focus on insurance coverage and intellectual property disputes. Dan lives with his wife and three children in Bethesda, Md.

**Megan McCarthy Foy** and her husband Jeff are thrilled to announce the birth of their second daughter Avery Marion who was born on November 6, 2012. Avery joins big sister Kaelyn who is four.

**Mark O'Brien** and his wife Katie, along with big brother Finn, welcomed Buckley "Buck" Burke O'Brien into the world on May 15, 2013. Buck is named in part after our Siena classmate Todd Burke, who lost his battle with cancer in 1996.

## 1996

Brian Murray  
murray21@hotmail.com

## 1997

Selena Dutcher  
selenadutcher@gmail.com

**Donna DeFrancesco Anderson** and her husband George welcomed twins, Nicholas James and Jeffrey Thomas, on December 9, 2012.

**Todd Curley** and Stacey Olechowski Curley '00 welcomed their son Christopher to the world on May 30, 2013. He joins big sisters Ava and Gabriella.

**Cheryl Gnade McGrattan** is vice president of marketing, public relations and community relations at Nathan Littauer Hospital in Gloversville, N.Y.

## 1998

Janine Trapp Scotti  
Sienasaints98@yahoo.com

Hello class of '98! Well, our 15th reunion is behind us, and it was great seeing some of you there! I hope to see more of you at the 20 year reunion in 2018!

I received some exciting news from two of our classmates.

Laura Wachendorfer Cocozza '97 and her husband **Francis Cocozza** welcomed their fifth child, Thomas Nathaniel, born on December 31, 2012. Thomas joins in the Cocozza fun with his siblings, Joseph, ten; Jonah, seven; Anthony, five; and Margaret, four. Congrats to the Cocozza family!

**Patrick Jordan** has been promoted to senior assistant corporation counsel for the city of Albany, N.Y. He and his wife Laura live in Castleton-on-Hudson, N.Y. with their two children, son Finn, five, and daughter Teagan, two. Congratulations Patrick!

**Michael Rubeis** and his wife Savithri welcomed their first child Anishka Veronica on May 11, 2013. He was not able to make reunion this year but looks forward to future visits to the campus. Congratulations to Mike and his growing family!

## 1999

Brendan Fitzgerald  
nyfitzgerald@gmail.com

**Danielle Minelli** wed Christopher Pagnotta on November 3, 2012 at St. Kateri Church in LaGrangeville, N.Y. Fr. Michael Harlan and Fr. Larry Ford presided. Many Siena alumni were in attendance and a great time was had by all. Dee is employed as a director with New York City's Department of Homeless Services.

**Patrick Crowe** and **Karen Gisotti Crowe**, along with their two year old son Jason, welcomed twins, James "Jamie" and Katherine "Katie" on March 21, 2013.

**Hollie Brown Smith** joined the medical staff of Pro Health Partners and Cherry Brook Health Care Center as an advanced practice registered nurse.

Congratulations to all!

## 2000

Shaymus Schweitzer  
Sienasaints2000@hotmail.com

Congratulations to **Matthew Woodard** and **Denise Egolf Woodard** who welcomed their daughter Morgan Kaleigh on January 26, 2013. Matt also made partner at his firm Jackson Lewis LLP in White Plains, N.Y. in January. Congratulations Matt and Denise!

**Stephen DeSalvo** checked in! He is the director of alumni relations at Pace University and is happy to say his daughter Sienna is now 18 months old. Congratulations!

**Stacey Olechowski Curley**, her husband Todd Curley '97 and big sisters Ava and Gabriella welcomed Christopher who was born on May 30, 2013. Congratulations to the Curley family!

## 2001

Maura Mack  
Sienanotes01@gmail.com

## 2002

Christine Cinnamond  
Christine.cinnamond@gmail.com

**Thomas B. Reardon, Ed.D.** has returned to Siena College as an adjunct professor in the education department. He is teaching courses in middle-level instructional methods and adolescent development and has a research article published by the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD). It is part of a series encompassing the theme of "the whole teacher" and is his seventh publication. Welcome back and congratulations!

**Angela Rosetti** has been promoted to operations manager at TALK 1300 AM radio in Albany, N.Y. She has been with TALK 1300 since the station went on the air.

## 2003

Kelly Quist Demars  
kqdemars@gmail.com

The class of 2003 celebrated our 10 year reunion in June! It was great to catch up with old friends and make some new ones, too! At the reunion I found two classmates who are getting ready to welcome baby number two into

## 40 UNDER 40



Six Siena College alumni were among the Albany Business Review's 40 Under Forty this year. The annual event "recognizes forty leaders under the age of 40 who demonstrate business acumen, leadership skills and community involvement." Siena's honorees include: Chris Conway '97 (Vice President, Business Development, North America and Europe, AMRI), Todd Curley '97 (Vice President, Prime Cos.), Michael Durant '00 (New York State Director, National Federation of Independent Business), George LaMarche III '97 (Managing Partner, LaMarche Safranko Law PLLC), Christopher Litchfield '97 (President, Siena Fence Co.) and Neerav Patel '00 (Chief Operating Officer, Empire Broadcasting Corp.).

their lives. **Christopher Zale**, wife Marina and big brother Aiden are expected to be a family of four by August and **Chuck Rossbach** and Meaghan Horn Rossbach '05 will make their daughter Tara a big sister as well.

**Sonya Smelyansky VanBortel**, her husband Peter and their son Zachary welcomed Juliet Kay to the world on March 21, 2013.

**Brian Romano** started his own law firm in Danbury, Conn. and celebrates five years in business.

**Eric Brandt** and his wife Melissa attended the reunion as well. They will celebrate four years of marriage later in the month.

**Fr. Matt Wetsel** has moved closer to Siena and is now an associate pastor at Holy Trinity Church in Johnstown and Holy Spirit Church in Gloversville.

If you missed the reunion or I missed you there, don't be a stranger. Send me your updates!

## 2004

Melissa Termine Goetz  
Mtermine24@yahoo.com

Lauren Weber  
Lwebs13@gmail.com

**Darcy Robertson Passarelli** and her husband Mike welcomed their daughter Amalia Patricia on April 27, 2013.

**Kate Virkler Grant** and her husband Ken Grant '06 welcomed their first child Conor Joseph on June 3, 2013. Congratulations to the Passarelli and Grant families!

## NEWSMAKER



**Angela Roseffi '02** has been promoted to operations manager at TALK 1300 AM radio in Albany, N.Y.

## 2005

Breanne Suhrland Elsesser  
bsuhrlan@att.net

Greetings Class of 2005! I hope you all are enjoying the wonderful summer season! Congratulations to **Sally Block** who recently received her New York State license in massage therapy. She is currently working at Virgo Massage and Bodyworks and Spa Virgo in Albany, N.Y.

In other news, **Gary Holle** is a senior airman and is currently deployed with the United States Air Force at Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan. He is part of the 455th Expedition Aerial Support Squadron. Previously, Gary was deployed at Al Asad Air Force Base in Iraq as part of "Operation New Dawn." On behalf of the Class of 2005 and the entire Siena College community, we would like to thank Gary for his continued service to

## NEWSMAKER



Gary Holle '05

is currently deployed in the United States Air Force at Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan. He is a senior airman and part of the 455th Expedition Aerial Support Squadron.

## NEWSMAKER



**Amanda Kuryluk '07, Esq.**, has joined Maguire Cardona, P.C., a civil litigation and general practice firm based at The Sage Mansion in Menands, N.Y. as an attorney.

## NEWSMAKER



**Franchel Mendoza '09**, was elected to the board of directors for the African American Planning Commission Incorporated, a New York City based nonprofit organization committed to addressing homelessness and the related issues of domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, housing shortages, and unemployment.

our country. We wish you a safe and speedy return home!

## 2006

**Chris Elsesser**  
Christopher.elsesser@gmail.com

What's up Class of 2006? I hope 2013 has been treating you and your family well! Some happy news to share! **Ken Grant** and his wife **Kate Virkler Grant '04** welcomed their first child **Conor Joseph** on June 3, 2013. Congratulations!

Please remember to keep sending in your updates! Whether it is an engagement, marriage or baby announcement, new job, or other interesting milestone of life; no news is too small! I look forward to hearing from you all very soon!

## 2007

**Mike Utzig**  
mutzig@siena.edu  
**Jackie Shelburne**  
jacqueline.shelburne@gmail.com

**William Helmer** was admitted into the third department of the New York State Bar Association in June. He is currently working at **Darling & Wesdorp, PLLC**, in **Delmar, N.Y.**

**Stacey Tuttle** will earn a master's degree in mental health counseling from Southern Connecticut State University in August 2013.

**Blair Gearhart** began a new job with the New York State Education Department. He is working as

a grants management specialist for charter schools.

**Jackie** is excited to report that she has started a new position as a geriatric care manager at a firm in Manchester, Conn. called **Elder Care Consulting, LLC**.

**Dyana Christie** received tenure at **Archbishop Molloy High School** in **Queens, N.Y.**

**Kelly Edelman** just finished her first year at the same school and is excited to work in such a great environment alongside **Dyana!**

**Maria Marino O'Connor** and her husband **Kevin** welcomed their daughter **Mia Marie** on **June 3, 2013**. **Congrats!!**

Love is in the air. **James Cataldo** wed **Nicole Dann** on **May 3, 2013**. **James** had classmates **James Shahen, Nick Peters, Dan Papierniak, and Chris Begley** in his wedding party. **Lynn Hallenbeck** was on **Nicole's** side.

**Meredith Toussaint** got engaged to **Eric Schwerdt** in **December**.

**Erin King** and **Kevin Farrell** are to be wed in **September**.

**Whitney Tarella** and **Michael Landis** were wed on **September 29, 2012** in **Walt Disney World, Fla.** They currently reside in **Fort Worth, Texas**. Three of **Whitney's** **Siena** roommates were bridesmaids, including **Stephanie Korona Ebbesen, Jamie Knightes, and Caitlin Goodman**.

**Amanda Kuryluk '07, Esq.**, has joined **Maguire Cardona, P.C.**, a civil litigation and general practice firm based at **The Sage Mansion** as an attorney. The focus of her practice is in the areas of medical malpractice, as well as all aspects of civil litigation, including research, motions and appeals.

The **Class of 2007** wishes you all a lifetime of happiness, and **Jackie** and I wish you a wonderful summer. Please send us updates on your adventures, promotions, weddings, etc. for the next edition of **Siena** magazine.

## 2008

**Danielle Grasso**  
**Patrick Preston**  
Sienacollege2008@gmail.com

**Hayley Jurnak** is a pharmaceutical sales representative at **AstraZeneca**. She accepted the position in **November 2012**.

## 2009

**Tiffany Salonich**  
tsalonich11@aim.com

**Erin Haynes** and **Joe Cannella** were engaged on **May 24, 2013**.

**Jenna Millington** and **Patrick Ryan** were engaged in **April 2013**. They met in high school. **Jenna** said, "We will have the wedding in the winter of 2014 and are so very excited to start this next chapter of our lives!"

**Matthew Jones** and **Kaitlyn Robetor** were wed at the **St. Mary of the Angels Chapel** at **Siena College** on **May 4, 2013**.

**Elizabeth Murphy** and **Michael Sicaware** were wed on **May 26, 2013**.

**Vinny DaSilva** and **Christina Sillery** were wed on **July 29, 2012**.

**Toni Marrow** received her master's of arts in government and politics from **St. John's University** on **May 19, 2013**.

**James Ferguson** received his juris doctor degree from **Albany Law School** in **May 2013**.

**John Shahda** received his master's of business administration from the **University of North Carolina** at **Chapel Hill** in **May 2013**.

**Jason Nurmi** is the territory manager of eastern **New York** and surrounding areas for **Zimmer Dental**. **Zimmer** is one of the largest global providers of orthopedic and dental implants.

**Zachary Gosse** is playing with the **Westchester Flames F.C.**, an American soccer team based in **New Rochelle, N.Y.** He previously played three seasons with the **Brooklyn Knights**. **Zach** is featured in the upcoming movie **Going Pro: American Soccer** which is a documentary following the players and coaches of the **Premier Development League's Brooklyn Knights** soccer team over the course of the **2012** season.

**Lindsey Rosecrans** has accepted a new position as the first women's lacrosse coach at **Illinois Wesleyan**.

**Franchel Mendoza** has joined **Team in Training** which is part of the **Leukemia and Lymphoma Society** organization. He is dedicating his running through the organization in memory of a great friend and fellow alumni from **Siena**, **Edwin Ferreira '06**, a friend he has admired since college who passed away. **Franchel** says, "I am dedicating my training and running in the **Lymphoma and Leukemia Society** to **Edwin Ferreira** who persevered against odds and lived a rewarding

## NEWSMAKER



Laurie Murray '13 spent time in Tijuana, Mexico with Esperanza International building houses for the poor.

## DENVER ALUMNI EVENT



Denver alumni gathered on June 27, 2013. The event was hosted by Deb Kelly, associate professor of management.

life." Franchel is moving forward with training by running each week and completing three half marathons and a full marathon. Check out Franchel's website at <http://pages.teamintraining.org/nyc/nyc13/franchelmendoza>.

Congratulations to all of you. Please email me anytime to share your news with our class.

## 2010

Kelly Peckholdt  
[kellypeckholdt@gmail.com](mailto:kellypeckholdt@gmail.com)

Hello Class of 2010! I have not heard from anyone in a while! Send me your news!

## 2011

Allison Collins  
[am27coll@siena.edu](mailto:am27coll@siena.edu)

**Kait Ross** recently accepted a position as coordinator of Children's Miracle Network Programs at Albany Medical Center. Congratulations Kait!

**Alexandra Mancuso** is serving with the Franciscan Volunteer Ministry, an organization of laypeople whose members live together in faith and community as they minister to those in need. She is working with St. Anthony of Padua Parish and its ministries in Camden, N.J. She began her year of service last summer.

## 2012

Therese Daly  
[Classof2012classnotes@gmail.com](mailto:Classof2012classnotes@gmail.com)

**Shaun Looney** graduated from Army Ranger School in Fort Benning, Ga. on April 5, 2013. He is a 2nd Lt. in the army after participating in the Mohawk Battalion ROTC program.

**Brian Dorrian, Tim Quinn** and **Sam Racette** are serving with the Franciscan Volunteer Ministry, an organization of laypeople whose members live together in faith and community as they minister to those in need. Brian is working with St. Anthony of Padua Parish and its

ministries in Camden, N.J.; Tim is working with St. Francis Inn in Philadelphia, a soup kitchen run by Franciscans; and Sam is at St. Paul Church in Wilmington, Del. They all began their year of service last summer.

**Ben Thomas** lives in California and works at University of California Davis as the sustainability manager in dining services.

## 2013

Cassy Jane Werking  
[c18werk@siena.edu](mailto:c18werk@siena.edu)

Hello Class of 2013! Congratulations on graduating and I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. Although we will not be returning to the halls of the college we all called home, we will stay connected through class notes, which I will be coordinating. Please feel free to email me with any updates about your life and post-Siena endeavors that you would like to share with the class. Distance may separate us, but remember once a Saint, always a Saint!

## In Memory

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

- Joseph C. McCormick '50
- Dean V. Chandler '51
- Alfred W. Minch '53
- Rev. Carmel F. Moitke '54, O.F.M.
- Dr. Thomas Cinelli '57
- August Di Donna '58
- Thomas Waring '58
- Michael J. Kelleher '59
- William P. LaRoe '59
- Fred J. Saccocio Sr. '59
- Dr. Frank A. Lizzi '61
- William Donlon '62
- Rev. Father Paul F. Engel '62
- Francis R. Carey '64
- Robert Gauvreau '64
- Mary N. Kennedy '65
- Dennis Patrick Mohan '65
- Michael P. Shea '73
- Theodore H. Clements '74
- John E. Pike '75
- Carol A. Williams Urquiola '75
- Anita Brown '76
- Jane E. Goldner '76
- Sr. Lorraine Bernier '78
- Karen M. Smith-Sfara '79
- Michael Shotts '89

## weddings

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 wedding photos will be published in our ezine and can be found at [www.sienanewsmag.com](http://www.sienanewsmag.com) under the Alumni Connection heading. The wedding announcements will continue to appear in the class notes sections. Cheers!

## 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 email to [alumni@siena.edu](mailto:alumni@siena.edu) today!

SIENAcollege

515 Loudon Road  
Loudonville, NY 12211

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