

SDA Receives Gift of Historic Building



Saint Dominic Academy is expanding its campus thanks to a generous donation of the historic Jersey City Woman's Club building and property on Fairmount Avenue.

The building, built in 1910 for the Jersey City Woman's Club was gifted to SDA in

March. "Membership at the JC Club had declined over the years as members grew older and younger women were less inclined to join", said Patti Notarianni at the headquarters of the JC WC. The Woman's Club decided to donate the building to SDA rather than sell the building and give the proceeds to another non-profit, explained Barbara Griffin, SDA Head of School. Either option is required by their bylaws, she explained. "The JCWC had worked very hard to pay off the mortgage in the 1920's.... so when the property came to us, it really came as a gift", Griffin said.

The transfer of the building was "bittersweet", said Dorethy McGrath (SDA'46) who had been a member of the

JCWC for about 50 years. "There's a lot of nostalgia" for the building, said McGrath, "but we're so happy because so many of our members have been Saint Dominic graduates."

The two-story building, which features a large stained glass window, fireplace, grand staircase, and a ballroom with stage, will be used for SDA Alumnae and Parents' meetings, student performances and art shows. Space in the building may also be used in the future for social events and meetings, Griffin said. "It is a great addition to our campus".

"We are so grateful to the members of the Woman's Club and will take good care of the building for them" added Griffin.

SDA 2015 Grads Awarded Record College Scholarship Funding

Eighty-five new graduates of the SDA class of 2015 received their diplomas on Sunday, May 31, at the 137th Commencement Exercises. An exuberant and gifted class, the young women were awarded a record \$12.7 million in college scholarship and grant monies. Co-valedictorians Shannon Kelley and Mira Ibrahim, both of Bayonne, addressed students, family and friends.

The Graduation ceremony was presided over by Susan Mulvaney Odenthal '73, SDA Board of Trustees Chairperson, and Barbara Griffin, Head of School who thanked and congratulated not only the graduates, but also their parents, citing "their success is yours as well".

Commencement speaker, Tara McCann,



SDA Class of 1994 alumna, challenged the graduates to "run your own race with resilience and kindness." McCann holds a Bachelors Degree from Brown University and a Masters from Columbia University's Business School.

Salutatorian, Annamaria Carrasco delivered a moving address at the Baccalaureate Mass on May 26. Graduates were officially inducted into the SDA Alumnae Association

by Alumnae VP Elizabeth Katusa '04 at dinner following the Mass.

All 85 graduates are headed to college this Fall.

On June 5, 13 SDA Eighth Grade students celebrated "moving up" to High School, joining with the future SDA class of 2019. The students who joined the first 7th grade class at SDA in 2013 attended Mass and later performed the song "The Climb" for their families. Each student presented their parents with a white rose, and enjoyed a special celebratory luncheon in Elan afterwards.

Congratulations to all of our graduates and their families!



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SDA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

Anne Dalton O'Brien '65, P '90, '94
President

Elizabeth Katusa '04
Vice President

Vicki McDonald Lindorff '72, P '07, '13
Secretary

Stephanie Barbi '64
Treasurer

From the Head of School's Desk



Dear Friends of Saint Dominic Academy,

The Academy started off 2015 celebrating the addition of the Jersey City Woman's Club building on Fairmount Avenue to our campus. We are so grateful to the members of the Woman's Club for choosing Saint Dominic Academy to be the new owner of their beautiful, beloved clubhouse. Since we took over the building last winter, we have been "sprucing it up" and getting it ready to use for a number of different events. As the plans progress, we will keep you posted.

We ended the academic year on a high note. The Class of 2015, although smaller than classes years ago, earned over \$12.5 million dollars in scholarships – an unprecedented amount for a single class. Even as we send off our recent graduates to begin their college careers, we are looking forward to welcoming 76 freshmen in September- the largest incoming class in the last four years.

Give yourselves credit for all the good things happening at the Academy. Because of your loyal and generous support, SDA remains strong. We are grateful for all that you do that helps us continue the great mission of the Sisters of St. Dominic.

Be assured that we pray for you every day. Wishing God's blessing on you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,

Barbara C. Griffin

Reunion Weekend 2015



The Class of 1965 were the special guests of Saint Dominic Academy during Reunion Weekend 2015 as they celebrated their 50th SDA Class Reunion on Sunday, April 26. A beautiful Liturgy in the Chapel at SDA was followed by brunch in Madonna Hall. Members of the SDA Board of Trustees joined the SDA Alumnae Association Board in making the Reunion a memorable day.

The '65 Alums were joined by SDA Sisters from all classes on Friday of Reunion Weekend at the Zeppelin Hall Biergarten in Jersey City. Friends, memories, selfies and laughter were the order of the joyous evening. Many thanks to the Alumnae Association for coordinating the festivities at the Biergarten.

Save the Date Reunion 2016!

Join your SDA sisters on **Saturday, April 16, 2016** for the Saint Dominic reunion weekend Reunion Lunch to take place at The Breakers Hotel in Spring Lake.

A special celebration for the class of 1966 50th Reunion is being planned, but all Alumnae are invited to join in the fun. If you graduated SDA in a year ending in 1 or 6, it's your special time to shine!

Mark your calendar now and watch for more details and reservation information.

Contact Carol Gaffney,
Director of Annual Giving
cgaffney@stdominicacad.com

2015 Dominican Pillar Award Honorees

On Wednesday, October 28, Saint Dominic Academy will honor three distinguished alumnae at the 17th Annual Leadership Awards Gala.

We proudly announce our 2015 Dominican Pillar Award honorees: Dorethy McGrath, Vicki Lindorff and Lynne Seborowski. These three outstanding women have all demonstrated steadfast commitment to their professions, communities and to the education of young women.



Dorethy Hughes McGrath is a 1946 graduate of SDA. Dorethy earned a B.S. in Sociology from Marymount College and a M.A. in Special Education from Kean University. She taught special education in Jersey City for 30 years and was awarded "Teacher of the Year" in the state of New Jersey in 1989.

Dorethy is a past President of the Marymount NJ Alumnae Association, the College Club of NJ, The Odd Volumes and the Jersey City Woman's Club. As President of the Jersey City Woman's Club, Dorethy was instrumental in the donation of its historic building and properties to Saint Dominic Academy.

Dorethy was married to Richard McGrath, an attorney, and has two children. Her daughter Anita is also a graduate of SDA, class of 1981 as well as Marymount College. Her son,

Richard graduated from Xavier HS and the US Naval Academy. Dorethy is the proud grandmother of 5 granddaughters.



Vicki McDonald Lindorff is a 1972 SDA graduate. Vicki earned both a B.A. and M.A. in Communication Sciences and Disorders from Montclair State College. She begins her 38th year with ECLC of New Jersey, a nonprofit for people with special needs, including autism, Down syndrome and other developmental disabilities. Appointed as Principal of ECLC in 1982, Vicki has since introduced many innovative programs such as the creation of apartment-like classrooms to foster independent living skills, therapeutic horseback riding and most recently the addition of a full-time service dog.

Vicki lives in Kearny with her husband, George. They have four children, Allison SDA '07 and Emily SDA '13 and sons, Eric and Bryan. Vicki was an active member and officer of the SDA Mother's Club while her daughters were attending SDA and even stayed on to assist after their graduation. Vicki now serves as the SDA Alumnae Association Secretary.



Lynne Seborowski, SDA class of 2001 is our 2015 SDA "Young Alumna on the Move". Lynne earned her B.A. in Political Science from Seton Hall University and a Juris

Doctor degree from Seton Hall University School of Law. While completing her education, Lynne was the recipient of the Hudson County Bar Foundation Scholarship, an Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar, and named to the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

Lynne is currently the Assistant Prosecutor in the Hudson County Prosecutor's Office where she serves on the Special Unit Trial Team and Crime Strategies Unit. She was formerly the Judicial Law Clerk with the Honorable Sheila A. Veneble in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Jersey City, as well as the Hudson County Office of County Counsel, Jersey City.

Lynne was the SDA Mock Trial Team coach from 2012-2014. She also served as the Secretary of the Hudson County Bar Assoc., Young Lawyers' Division in 2010-2011.

Lynne hails from a long line of SDA alumnae including her aunt, Carol '65, cousin, Cathleen '86, and sisters, Beth '99, Claire '03 and Louise '05. Her brother, John taught English at SDA and then was appointed Academic Dean 2000-2014.

Now living in Edison, NJ, Lynne is engaged to Patrick DeCarlo.

Congratulations to all of our 2015 Honorees!



Save the Date 17th Annual SDA Leadership Gala

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

Kathy and Rick Whelpy, Gala Committee Chairs
Nanina's on the Park, Belleville, NJ 6 P.M..

Cocktails and Silent Auction followed by dinner
"Fund- A -Scholar Auction" and 50/50 Raffle drawing

Last year's 50/50 winner received \$12,257.50!

All proceeds from the Gala go directly to the SDA Scholarship 3Fund

For Journal and Sponsorship information
please contact cgaffney@stdominicacad.com

Please join us for the first SDA "Gift Gathering" party!

**Join the Gala Committee, SDA Staff and friends
for a festive reception in**

Madonna Hall

Sunday, September 20, 3 p.m.

Please bring restaurant gift certificates, sports or theatre tickets, jewelry, vacation, movie or spa vouchers, quality bottles of wine or spirits, collectible memorabilia, etc to donate for the 2015 Leadership Gala **Silent Auction**.

*Monetary donations to purchase auction items
also appreciated!*

Contact Carol Gaffney, Director of Annual Giving
at cgaffney@stdominicacad.com

201.434.5938 ext 42 please rsvp by sept 15

Alumnae news

Dorethy Hughes McGrath '46 is "thrilled and humbled" to receive the Dominican Pillar award this year.

Barbara Berardinelli Barone '51 and husband, John became great-grandparents.

Geraldine Gillio '57 plans to travel to Austin TX to attend the Peace Corps Reunion.

Claire Buckley Roeber '61 and husband Len took a trip to Las Vegas, the Grand Canyon and Hoover Dam.

Marian Fama Sari '59 welcomed her new granddaughter, Lilianna on May 5.

Pat Antonucci Glowack '59 and husband, Jack are celebrating their 50th Anniversary, have been living in Southern California for 40 years.

Eileen Mandzak '61 and husband, Vincent celebrated their 50th Anniversary. They have 2 grandsons, Wyatt and Sawyer.

Carla Schechner '61 won 4th Place ribbon at North Carolina State Fair for her queen-size quilt.

Stanis Marusail Beck '62 is the proud grandmother of Gideon 4, Belen 2 1/2, and baby Michael William.

Ruth Shutte Campbell '63 has eight grandchildren.

Lorraine Martin Denick '65 and husband, Mike are enjoying being grandparents.

Karen Caruso '67 retired to southern New Mexico.

Eileen Rogers Dorritie '67 welcomed new grandchild, Madison Rose Dorritie, the latest of eight.

Linda Lienweber Higgins '67 is enjoying retirement and spending time with four grandsons.

Mary Lane '69 retired from Emblem Health after 30 years of service, and plans a trip to Yellowstone this Summer.

Jackie Kahle '71 is celebrating 40 years of marriage to Michael Dell'Orto.

Robin Maday Gibbon '75 celebrated her 25th anniversary as a New Jersey certified school nurse.

Christine Curtis '82 thanks SDA for the "gift of education...the gift keeps enriching my life."

Stacey Barbossa '84 is a 2015 Silver Medal winner in Cycle Cross National Championship, Austin TX.

Nicole Marie Totino '02 is engaged to Keith Stewart.

✚IN MEMORIAM✚

ALUMNAE

Mary DiBiase Pallidino '37

Claire Sutton Venner '43, mother of *Barbara Venner '68* (deceased), *Claire Venner Lawler '73*, *Janine Venner Lerman '75* and *Robyn Venner Smith '78*. Sister of *Ann Sutton Sheridan '47* and niece of *Patricia Sheridan '78*

Sister Jean Veronica Duszynski, O.P. '46

Veronica Harlow Kirpan '47

Sister Francis Gerald Wirth. O.P. '47

Anne Woerner Tullo '49

Ann Marie Blake-Ward '50

Clara Quaglieri Keating '52

Claire O'Toole Tomeo '52

Theresa Panzino Lee '54

Dorothy Shanahan Mangieri '54

Nancy Ferrara '57

Margaret Ruppert Sullivan '57

Mary Hurley Hall '58

Maria Campana Nesgood '64

Dorothy Perez '98

FAMILY

Angeli Li, mother of *Karen Li '01*

Ann Eckel, mother of *Debra Eckel '87*

Patricia O'Brien, mother of *Coleen Zoller '94*

Ruth Cahill, mother of *Maureen Zegler '83* and grandmother of *Staci Zegler '83*

Wiliam Bromirski, brother of *Barbara Bromirski '57* and *Melanzie Bromirski Zazula '60*, grandfather of *Nicole Wojcik '06*

Patricia O'Brien, mother of *Coleen Zoller '94*

Virginia Morley, mother of *Patricia Morley '69*, *Mary Frances Polino '72*, *Virginia Caine '71*, *Kathleen Rybicki '72*, *Eileen Duke '77*, *Elizabeth Harney '81*, *Tracy Morley '80*.

MaryEllen McLaughlin, mother of *Maureen Byrne '78*, *Claire Juliana '79*, *Megan Becht '81*, *Maryellen McLaughlin, '82*