

WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI EMISSARY

The Official Publication of the West Catholic Alumni Association

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WEST CATHOLIC ALUMNI ASSN.

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EXCLUSIVE
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97th Communion Breakfast April 29, 2018

Our Mission Statement...

Our mission is to preserve the spirit and traditions of West Catholic High School by instilling fellowship among the faculty, friends, former students and graduates of West Catholic High School and to provide support to West Catholic High School and its students.

“West Catholic High School” is intended to be defined broadly to include the current West Catholic Preparatory High School as well as its predecessors.

The mission statement is read at every meeting of the Board of Governors and is intended to remind the members of the Board and the Association that all actions, plans and programs should be consistent with the purposes set forth in the mission statement.

ANNOUNCING THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION’S

97TH ANNUAL COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Nominations for Annual Awards; New Committee Members Welcome

The Alumni Association is proud to announce that it will be holding its 97th Annual Communion Breakfast in the Spring of 2018! The tentative date is April 29, 2018. Further details will be published in the next edition of The Emissary and on the Association’s website – www.westcatholicalumni.org.

The Annual Communion Breakfast is the longest standing West Catholic tradition! Each year, the Communion Breakfast provides West Catholic alums with the opportunity to publicly demonstrate our commitment to our

Catholic heritage and to the West Catholic Spirit, as well as enjoy the camaraderie of classmates and friends. Please set aside the date and watch for further information on the Communion Breakfast. Join in this great tradition in 2018!

The Communion Breakfast traditionally starts with Mass for alums, family and friends. Immediately following Mass is the Breakfast and Awards Ceremony, at which the Association honors Alums and Friends of West Catholic that have demonstrated their commitment to the West Catholic family and exemplify the famous West Catholic Spirit!

Please consider nominating a worthy Alum or Friend of West Catholic for a 2018 Communion Breakfast Award. The criteria for each of the annual awards can be found below. Nominations should include the person’s name, graduation year

(if a West Alum), contact information for the nominee (phone number or e-mail), reasons for the nomination/nominee’s achievements and contributions, and your contact information so that the Communion Breakfast Committee may follow up with you for information. Please send all nominations to crowley@blankrome.com.

The deadline for nominations is December 31, 2017.

New members are also welcome to join the Communion Breakfast Committee. In addition to organizing and publicizing the Communion Breakfast, the Committee also is responsible for reviewing the nominations and selecting the annual award recipients. If you would like to join the Communion Breakfast Committee, please send an email to crowley@blankrome.com.

THE COMMUNION BREAKFAST AWARDS CRITERIA

The criteria for the awards traditionally presented at the Communion Breakfast are as follows:

Brother Edwin Anselm Award, Brother D. Aloysius Award, Brother G. John Owens Award and Brother G., and Martin Strickroth Award: A nominee must (a) be a person who exemplifies Catholic values and beliefs; (b) be an alum of West Catholic; (c) be a proven “loyal son or daughter” of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor; and (e) have contributed significantly to West Catholic in any form. The Brother Edwin Anselm Award typically is given to a Christian Brother, Religious Sister or lay teacher who exemplifies the LaSallian tradition.

(continued on page 5)

OUR ANNUAL FUND DRIVE... HELPS BRING YOU A PRINTED EMISSARY & MUCH MORE, BUT WITHOUT THE FUNDS WHAT CAN WE DO?

2016 was another productive year with many positive highlights; we have been able to maintain our assistance to the West Catholic family in the form of donations for tuition assistance, building improvements in the school, helping families through difficult times, lending our support to academic enrichment programs within the school and continued our work towards Alumni sponsored events for our West Catholic family. We are executing many of the ideas we had over the years and are creating a more active alumni community. We thank you for helping us achieve these milestones.

Even though we have increased our human capital involvement and have been able to start so many new

enrichment programs we have and to make some difficult financial decisions to make up for lack of annual fund donations to the Association. The Emissary is one of our largest expenses costing the association upwards of \$8000 to distribute and mail over 11,000 papers to our male alumni. With the expansion into all alum of West Catholic and needing to integrate all grads into the mailing, it is currently not feasible to produce the Emissary in its traditional form. This is a monumental shift and while it may not be a popular decision, we felt the money in our account was best used for West Catholic related support such as an investment in the 100th Anniversary

celebration, support of the Alumnae Association as well as fulfilling some requests from the school.

The Alumni Association wanted to be able to reach new height with financial support and with Alumni Association preparing to elect new Board members and an Executive Committee in May & June the summer will be spent focussing on a transition and new financial goals for the organization.

Rather than not produce an Emissary, this issue will be exclusively available online and in electronic format. While this issue may not reach the entire audience it once did in print we are hopeful that the download and reach of this edition will go further and produce

a greater fund raising return than the previous issues.

Our West Catholic Alumni Association is an independent entity that exists to preserve the spirit and traditions of West Catholic by keeping an active interest among its Members, instilling fellowship among the faculty, friends and former students of West and providing financial support to West Catholic and its students.

We have not done an official Annual Fund Drive mailing in a while and have asked for financial support through social media and articles in the Emissary. We rely heavily on Annual donations to fuel the rest of the expenses for the year.

The math is quite simple, if every person who received the Emissary donated \$10 per year, we would easily be able to generate \$100,000.00 per year which would easily fund an expanded Emissary mailing as well as allowing us to increase donations to the school and community, making a beautiful difference for West Catholic. Every contribution, of any size, to our Annual Fund Drive is vitally important and appreciated. Please help keep the West Catholic Spirit alive through your renewed support! Visit the alumni website at www.WestCatholicAlumni.org and donate online to make your generous contribution today. Thank You for your continued support!

Christian Brothers House Update

by Frank Metzler and FrankAdolf Pictures of New Ocean Rest facility by: John Staiber

OCEAN REST IN OCEAN CITY, NJ



The Brothers historic summer retreat house on the corner of 31st and Central Avenue in Ocean City, New Jersey was purchased in 1898 from Department Store magnate John Wanamaker. According to the Christian Brothers' history of the property, the main building was built by developer George Langley and he called it: "The Ocean Rest Hotel". Grace Kelly, her family and other local Catholics attended Sunday Masses in the Brothers' chapel from the early 1930's up to the 1960's.

The state fire marshal had prohibited the Brothers from using the third floor of the buildings and in 2011 from using the second floors, all due to old 19th century plumbing, n o n - conformity to fire codes, the lack of Disabilities Act requirements, and no heating or air conditioning systems. The Brothers announced in 2013 that they could not afford the multimillion-dollars renovations that would make the buildings habitable.

In April, 2014 the two buildings were razed and the large property divided into 4 lots, each lot stretching from Central Avenue to the beach. The Brothers kept the corner lot

at 31st and Central for their new "OCEAN REST" and sold the other three lots. The main entrance of the new facility is located on 31st Street and two-one car garages and car ports were build under the home off Central Avenue. The home has 14 bedrooms, each with a full bathroom. There is a TV room on each floor.

Each floor has a large room and there is a large deck on each level facing the ocean. The first floor room will serve as a chapel. when completed. The second floor room serves as the dining room and kitchen, and the third floor room is the Brothers' living room, with large sofas, chairs, tables and chairs for card playing, newspaper reading, and/or letter writing.

Prior to the construction, several storms pushed the sand up to the Brothers' old facilities. The sand was pushed back toward the



ocean creating a dune. Over the past several years bushes and trees have grown on the dune creating a large forest looking yard and privacy. From the second and third floors the Brothers have a clear view of the ocean over the dunes. It was reported in an early

edition of our the class of 1958's newsletter that over the years the black robed Brothers walked the beach at dusk before their evening prayers and that they came to be known by the local community as "The Walk of the Penguins".



“HER-STORY Lesson”

Veda C.Henderson, ‘84



“I loved my time at West; it built my academic and professional foundation.” *Ivory Allison, class of '97*

Ivory grew up in the Our Lady of Rosary parish. She transferred from a public school in the 4th grade, and she appreciated the close-knit, welcoming community of Rosary. After graduating from West Catholic, Ivory attended Saint Joseph's University and received a BS in Sociology. Just after her graduation from college she landed the opportunity that any recent graduate would love - she was hired as the Event Coordinator for The Fund for Philadelphia, Inc. She managed the Mayor's Annual City Hall Birthday Ball. This would begin her journey working on events with the City of Philadelphia. She has been the Sponsorship Consultant

for the Philadelphia Holiday Festival, Special Events Coordinator for Philadelphia's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, and the Philadelphia Marathon to name a few. She is the first and only African American Executive Director in the country for the American Liver Foundation and she covers Southern and Central Pennsylvania, Southern and Central New Jersey, Delaware, Washington DC, Maryland and Virginia.

An upcoming event is one of her favorites, **Flavors of Philadelphia** for the American Liver Foundation. The event takes place on **Wed, May 3rd at the Sugar House Casino**. Flavors is a culinary experience that goes beyond the traditional gala providing guests with the unique experience of having a top local chef prepare a multi-course dinner tableside. The evening showcases the signature dishes of our culinary experts and takes you beyond the usual restaurant fare. Unleash your inner “foodie” and experience a distinct evening of dining while

helping to fund the research, education, and advocacy efforts of the American Liver Foundation.

Ivory Allison is an accomplished executive in the non-profit industry with outstanding credentials and a proven record of results. She was listed as one of the 10 people under 40 to watch in 2007 by the Philadelphia Tribune Newspaper and is 2016 listed as one of the African American leaders in the City of Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Business Journal named her one of the Women of Distinction for 2016.

One of her personal accomplishments happened last summer. She and a friend decided to take golf lessons at an area country club. They were trained by a golf professional and enjoyed playing at the country club. They also joined the Philly Golf Divas, a group of women golfers that meet weekly for golf outings.

Ivory is currently Young Alumni representative on the West Catholic Alumni Association Board of Governors.

Ivory is also on the Board of Philadanco (Philadelphia Dance Company) and holds memberships in the Young Friends of the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Saint Joseph's University Alumni Association, the Arts & Business Council of Philadelphia, Business Volunteer for the Arts, a member of the Passion Committee for the American Heart Association, the Association of Fundraising Professional and a member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women PA Chapter. She loved her time at West Catholic and is passionate about giving back and helping the students. She participates in student focused activities like panel discussions and annual Career Day events. Ivory is also mentoring a few seniors.

Her message to WC students: “Have fun!” Her 12th grade year was very college-focused. She was never told to enjoy the experiences of college and not to let life pass her by. “Don't look back and regret not enjoying your friends, study abroad, travel! Balance your education and social life!” At St. Joe's, she was too serious and wished she had taken a moment to lay on the lawn and enjoy the beautiful scenery.

Her message to her fellow graduates: “As alumni we should give back, not only financially but be able to help the students by volunteering for events to take part in strengthening their foundation along with the families, teachers and school staff.”

GET INVOLVED - MAKE A DIFFERENCE

You need not be a board member to participate in any of our committee's. If you see a committee that you wish to join please contact us via email at westcatholicalumni@gmail.com or submit your request through our website www.westcatholicalumni.org

COMMITTEE'S

- Young Alumni
- Communion Breakfast
- Membership
- Communications
- Spiritual Affairs
- Veterans Committee

- Scholarship
- Burrs at the Beach
- Fundraising
- Financial Review
- By-Laws

Currently issued twice a year by the Alumni Association Communications Committee.

If you would like to contribute please send you ideas, questions, comments, photos, suggestions, updates on family, friends or classmates, etc... along to westcatholicalumni@gmail.com

An Award Winning Engineering Technology Academy

Faith In The Future

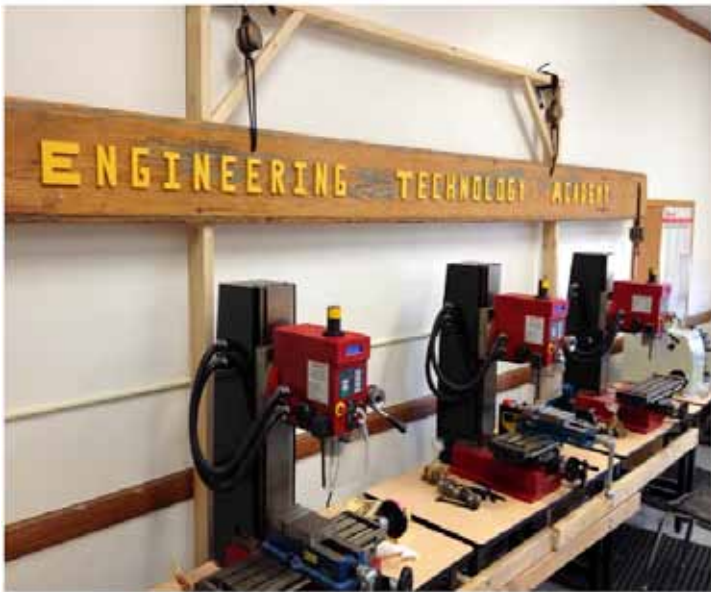
At West Catholic Preparatory High School, a school with a 98% minority, low-income population, the needs are different than at many schools. Part of the school's mission is to serve low-income students, who need this safe place where they can learn from teachers who push them to succeed. With this in mind, they approached the creation of a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program with the goal to help their students prepare for any avenue life might take them down.

While many schools have STEM programs of some kind, West Catholic

has taken the approach of preparing students for both college and the workforce. Students at West Catholic receive a college preparatory education and college opportunities are available to them - but also have other career pathways as an option. In this way, students who participate in the ETA (Engineering Technology Academy) program learn the elements necessary to continue on to college, but also are poised to step into a career straight out of high school. In creating a hands-on learning program, they are preparing their students in multiple ways for their future, and teaching them to be practical thinkers and problem solvers.

math, and physics, and produce their designs using on-site equipment. This approach is based on the belief that students will learn best by continuously applying the "plan - do - check - act" cycle, so that by graduation they will be prepared to take responsibility for their own learning processes.

The program has proved so popular since its inception in 2014 that West Catholic hired a new director, Ryan Baxter, in September. So far this school year, students have built tool storage and work surfaces for the ETA classrooms, bookshelves for the guidance department, and a dual-vice workbench. Ryan has also overseen the purchase of new equipment which will allow students to focus more effort on the design phase of any project. Ryan works to make the program function in an interdisciplinary way on a daily basis. "I meet daily with 9th-grade students from the honors "Physics First" class to seek out students who may have an aptitude for ETA in 2017-2018. Additionally, 9th-grade students make up some of the most active participants in our after-school program, and are



separately heading up our team for the Governor's STEM Competition (competition in late February)."

The Engineering Technology Academy at West Catholic is an example of how the Archdiocesan schools overseen by Faith in the Future are preparing our students to solve problems dynamically, to be life-long learners, and to be both college-ready and workforce-ready, as we

prepare these students to be the scholars and workers of tomorrow. It also demonstrates the strengths of our teachers and administrators, who adapt the curriculum to their students' needs, creating the most optimal learning experience possible. As our schools are guided by their boards, administrators can establish the best value proposition for their students and families.



The Engineering Technology Academy is a four year program built into the core curriculum, and is designed to give students a real-world, interdisciplinary approach to learning by doing. Students learn computer skills, incorporate principles of art,

Commentary: Five Years Later

By: H. Edward Hanway and Samuel Casey Carter

Five years ago, a commission studying the state of the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia put forth a dire report. Questions of funding, enrollment challenges, and long-term sustainability defined the commission's lengthy report. Ultimately, it was announced that 45 of the

156 elementary schools would either close or merge with others. Four high schools were also slated for closure.

Plain and simple, Catholic schools in the Philadelphia region were in trouble, and this study shined a light on many issues. It startled the community to

action. Spurred by business and civic leaders coming together - and many pledging millions of dollars to stabilize the system - many schools were saved from closing.

While fund-raising certainly helped, the faith and wisdom of Archbishop Charles J. Chaput was equally important. He recognized the passion of lay leaders - Catholic and non-Catholic alike - for these schools and he empowered them to take action.

Yet, after the dust settled in spring of 2012, questions remained about whether such financial support could be maintained, even one year later, let alone five years.

Today, many of those questions have been answered thanks to the efforts of key partners, including elected officials who have increased Earned-Income Tax Credit (EITC) funding in the commonwealth and established the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC). These programs, coupled with ongoing fund-raising and creative leadership, have seen Catholic schools not just saved but growing once again.

The transformation has been remarkable.

Our Mother of Consolation, was slated to close in 2012. It was saved and in 2015 the U.S.

Department of Education named it a National Blue Ribbon School. Enrollment is up and the preschool now has a waiting list. Likewise, venerable West Catholic was set to close in 2012. Enrollment had dropped to 248 students, down from a high of more than 900. Five years later, it has been reborn as West Catholic Preparatory High School. Creating a new partnership with Drexel University, the school has added an engineering and technology academy. Its board of directors has helped to boost fund-raising, cultivating a \$5 million gift in 2016, and its enrollment has increased to 410 students.

Class Reunion & Luncheons

Your Alumni Association can provide your Reunion Committee with a current listing of your classmates. Any Class planning a reunion or that would like to plan one, please call the Alumni Office at 215-387-8560

If you are having a gathering of any kind let us know about it. We can post it online at www.WestCatholicAlumni.org as well as put it in print for your right here in the Emissary. Just send an email to westcatholicalumni@gmail.com or call the alumni office at 215-387-8560

www.WestCatholicAlumni.org

West Catholic Merchandise
SHOP ONLINE NOW!

Alumni Merchandise items provide the opportunity to spread West Catholic Spirit & Pride while supporting your Alumni Association. You can see all of the merchandise and place your order at

www.WestCatholicAlumni.org

- * Sweatshirts * Baseball Caps *
- * Jackets * Regular / Mock Turtleneck *
- * Tee Shirts * Golf Shirts * Burrland Shirts * Sweat Pants
- * Hooded Sweatshirts * West Catholic Print 49th St. * Flags
- * Banners * Pennants *

CHECK OUT ALL BURR ITEMS ONLINE!

VETERANS MASS ANOTHER SUCCESS...
plus A PIECE OF HISTORY IS REBUILT!



On Friday November 10, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. the Veterans Committee of the West Catholic Alumni Association held the 5th Annual Veterans Appreciation Mass at West Catholic. Each year this event gets bigger and bigger but this year truly was memorable. As many of you know the West Catholic Alumni Veterans Committee has been working diligently to restore the Grotto and put it back on West Catholic Property where it belongs. On November 10, the Veterans committee dedicated the new Grotto and the West Catholic Alumni Association Veterans Committee hosted West Alums who served, are currently serving, and who had family that has served in the Armed Forces attend for this significant and historic event. Many purchased Memorial Bricks to help fund the Grotto Project so we hope you will come and see this new piece of our history. We shared this event with many friends, family, and neighbors that have served in several Branches of service in many different capacities, in peacetime or wartime.. The students were on hand to honor and celebrate the Veterans of West Catholic

for their service.

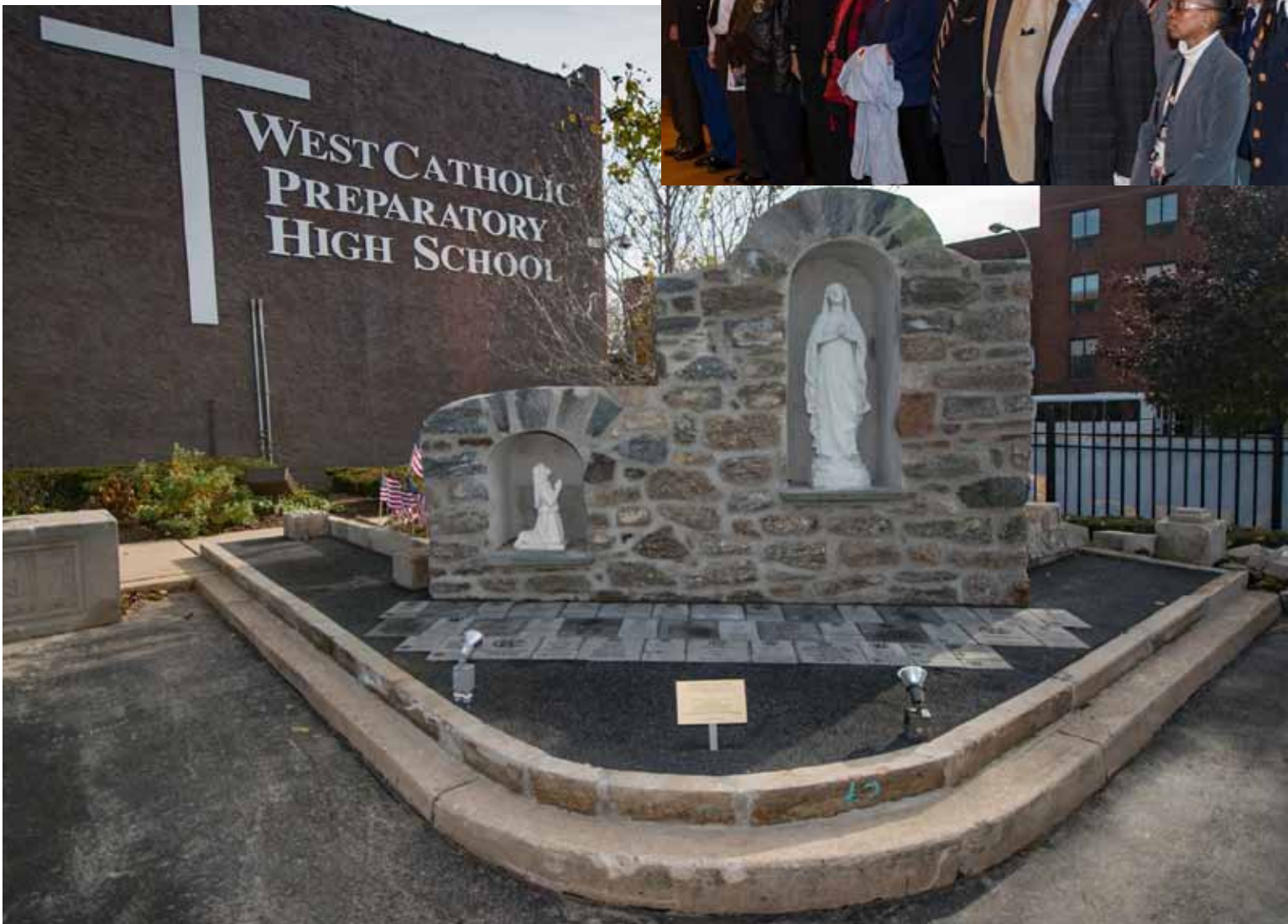
From WW II to Iraq and Afghanistan; West Catholic graduates have donned uniforms and answered their country’s call to serve. **Many represented their branch by wearing their uniforms or branch of service swag.** All present demonstrated to the students of West Catholic Preparatory High School the proud history and tradition of honorable and faithful

service to our country by the many generations of West Catholic Alumni.

This years’ tribute featured Gold Star Mothers/Families and the dedication of the Grotto. The Mass was held in the chapel and after Mass the Veterans Processed into the auditorium, a performance of the National Anthem by the students of West Catholic’s Music Department, and a rendition of Taps was played

to pay tribute to those West Catholic Alumni who made the ultimate sacrifice. A reception will follow in the school Library and students will be available to provide tours of the school for anyone interested. We ask that you please arrive early to check in with the Veteran

Committee staff. Parking will be available in the school lot. Student escorts will direct you into the school. So come on out honor our vets who have served, see the school, and reconnect with West Catholic. Help us to keep **WEST BEST!**



Communion Breakfast *continued from page 1*

William H. McGarvey Award: A nominee must (a) be a good Catholic gentleman; (b) be an alumnus of West Catholic; (c) be a proven “loyal son” of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor; and (e) have contributed significantly to West Catholic in any form.

Margaret Porter’40 Blue & Gold Award: A nominee must be (a) an alumna of West Catholic; (b) who exemplifies the West Catholic Tradition, (c) who has achieved success in her chosen field, and (c) who has contributed significantly of her time and talents to the West Catholic Community.

Golden Burr Award: A nominee must (a) be a person who exemplifies Catholic values and beliefs; (b) be an alum of West Catholic; (c) be a proven “loyal son or daughter” of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in athletics and in a chosen field of endeavor; and (e) have contributed significantly to West Catholic in any manner.

Bishop John McCort Award: A nominee must (a) be a person who exemplifies Catholic values and beliefs; (b) have contributed to West Catholic in an ethical manner; and (c) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor. Nominees for

the Bishop McCort Award do NOT have to be alums of West Catholic.

50th Anniversary Golden Burr Award: A nominee must (a) be a person who exemplifies Catholic values and beliefs; (b) be a member of the 50 year anniversary class of West Catholic (the Class of 1966); (c) be a proven “loyal son or daughter” of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor; and (e) have contributed significantly to West Catholic in any form.

25th Anniversary Golden Burr Award: A nominee must (a) be a person who exemplifies Catholic values and beliefs; (b)

be a member of the 25 year anniversary class of West Catholic (the Class of 1991); (c) be a proven “loyal son or daughter” of West Catholic; (d) have achieved outstanding success in a chosen field of endeavor; and (e) have contributed significantly to West Catholic in any form.

(Note – “West Catholic” includes West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys, West Philadelphia Catholic Girls High School, West Philadelphia Catholic High School and West Catholic Preparatory High School. References to “contributions” mean time, effort, non-financial support, etc., and are not meant to be limited to monetary donations. The

terms “alum”, “alumnus” and “alumna” include men and women who attended West Catholic for at least one year and whose class has graduated. The Association recognizes that, for many reasons, students that started their education at West Catholic may not have been able to complete their four years at West but remain very important members of our West Catholic family!)



Changing of the Guard *David F. Joslin, Jr.*

Dear Fellow Burrs,

Is This The End? Just like the class of '88's Prom theme, yes it is. The last four years have gone by so quickly. Along the way there have been many memorable West Catholic moments. I am honored to have had the chance to lead such an incredible group of dedicated and loyal sons and daughters of our illustrious West Catholic High. This year marks the 100th Anniversary of West Catholic, a milestone that just five years ago did not seem we were going to have the chance to celebrate. The school was slated to close, the alumni and entire West Catholic family were devastated only to turn on a dime and be saved by the grace of God through the Faith in the Future foundation. The elation of that news just prior to my taking over as President of this Alumni Association gave new life to West, but there was much work to still be done. Our school has two Alum Associations with separate governing bodies and after 70+ years of existence and 25 years after

the schools joined forces, the Alumni Association voted to change our by laws and open the Association up to all graduates.

Brother Richard was pleased when we finally were able to accomplish this historic change and it has us moving forward in the right direction. West Catholic has such a storied and incredibly diverse history, this bylaw change was a step towards complete unification of our Alum. My motivation in leading this effort was to make sure that we bring all of our alum together under one organization to carry out the mission to serve the entire West Catholic family. Our Alum have continued to help this school rise out of its lowest financial and emotional points over the past several years and will continue to support them in any way we can.

Over the last four years we have carried on traditions such as the Annual Communion Breakfast, in its 96th year, and Burrs At The Beach now in its 29th year. New traditions

have been started with the Alumni Induction Ceremony-we officially welcome the Senior class as Alum at the end of their school year, supporting the Theater programs, an annual Veteran's Mass honoring all West Catholic Veterans, Our First Responders / 9-11 Memorial Mass, Expanded Alumni involvement at Career Day, Sponsorship of St Barnabus and St. Francis DeSales basketball teams during the Bishop McFadden Summer League, Secret Santa assistance bringing Christmas presents and meals to deserving West families on Christmas Eve and our newest venture of rebuilding the Grotto on the grounds of West Catholic. We have financially supported West Catholic programs and education and loaned our human capital to enrich these programs and keep our Alumni involved with West.

My wish is that our West Catholic alum continue to thrive and grow towards one united West Catholic family. One that does not see religion, race, gender,

political party or income levels as a point of difference but embraces those differences to learn from one another and develop an understanding between each other. A family that can be the shining example of how God wants us to treat others. A family that offers tough love when needed but is always there for each other to lend a shoulder to cry on, a hand to pull you through or pat you on the back or the strength to carry you when you need it most. The students of today have a greater understanding of our society than we think and they get it, they understand there should be very few barriers in our world, they are living the Christian teachings within the walls of West Catholic and carry it out into the world. We need to remember our Catholic teachings and know that we are all loved by God. Our journey has been designed by him and he will not give us more than we can handle. We will be tested along the way but as long as with keep our faith as a foundation and live by the teachings of

our religion we will live a fruitful life.

I want to Thank you all for the support you have shown during the last two terms, four years goes by so fast. I am extremely proud of the work the association members have been put in and helped us accomplish insurmountable tasks over these years and have always stayed focussed to help make a difference in the lives of our West Catholic family.

I ask that you pray for the new leadership as they make their commitment to our alumni community as well as your own personal support of alumni association events and services to our alumni community. Without you there is no Alumni Association, your support is vital to our longevity and our ability to carry on the traditions of our family for good ole West Catholic High!

All the best,



Altoona PA & West Catholic Hoops *By: Ed Kerr,'60*



First Row: Mike Pellecchia, Bernie Shannon, Glenn Hamilton, Marvin Hightower, Scott Galloway
Second Row: Head Coach Joe Donahue, Pat Sweeney, Ray Palmer, Chris McShane, Calvin Blackmon, Manager Nigel Owens, Assistant Coach Bill Ludlow

Early December of 1991 was a difficult one for the West Catholic Burrs Boys' basketball team,

As their leading scorer from last year's squad, and co-captain David Reilly, tragically lost his life. In August of 1991...David was remembered by his Head Coach, Joseph Donahue and his Asst., Bill Ludlow. His teammates dedicated the 1991-92 Season to the memory of #10, David Reilly. "His serenity, courage and wisdom will serve as a...Constant reminder to our team as they work toward their goal" was presented by Coach Donahue, the spirited leader of this Burr Hoopsters Basketball team on December 6-7 of 1991, as the team traveled to Altoona PA to be part of the Dean Patterson Great CHEVY Shoot out to be played at the JAFFA MOSQUE, built in the early 30's. This team had some very good players to include:

Mike Pellecchia, Bernie Shannon, Glenn Hamilton, Marvin Hightower, Scott Galloway, Pat Sweeney, Ray Palmer, Chris McShane, Calvin Blackmon and A terrific Manager, Nigel Owens. As very loyal fans of this Burr team, my son, Ben '95 and I traveled to Altoona for the game and returned to Philadelphia following a hard fought battle against always tough Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School from Brooklyn, New York, this contest was as close as 56-52 but West Catholic would fall by 74-58. Fast forward...Why did Altoona pop up again? Well New *Basketball Coach at West Catholic Prep, who interviewed with West Catholic Icon, Ernie Beck before accepting the position of Head Coach of the Boys' basketball team while also serving as Director of Admissions at West Prep, is originally from the fine city of Altoona, PA. *Jason Hasson and I spoke while

I was writing this story in early March, He and his staff and team will continue his initial season at West when they compete against a team In Lancaster PA for a PIAA game. Jason previously served as an assistant coach at St. Anthony's High School in Jersey City, NJ and as Head coach for five seasons at Pope John XXIII High School in Sparta NJ compiling an outstanding record of 108-37 while capturing the school's first ever state championship in 2014-15. From the looks of the West Prep roster for the current season, Coach

Hasson does have a Plan to once again, elevate West Catholic Basketball moving forward. With 100 years of proud tradition behind him, may he and all connected with West Catholic Preparatory High School enjoy a very bright future. Support Catholic Education!

Own a business in Pennsylvania?

Give through your state taxes Pennsylvania offers a rewarding program for businesses to send their states taxes to West Catholic as a donation. Called Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC), you can provide scholarships and financial aid for our students who live in underachieving school districts of which over 95% of our student body qualifies. Your state

business tax dollars can bring young men and women out of these failing schools and offer them a chance to excel here at West Catholic. The process is as simple as filling out a one page form.

Contact Andrew Brady '02 to learn more about the program at abrady@blocs.org or call Andrew at 484-704-2309.

BURR BRIEF

By: Ed Kerr,'60

Paul Lhulier '42, now residing in Ardmore PA, is happy that he is still in the News, as he was featured in two Philadelphia Inquirer feature articles recently. Pearl Harbor in December 2016, and the day famous movie star Humphrey Bogart visited West Catholic High School for Boys' for an assembly, while in Philadelphia to promote his newest movie. The article was about both West Catholic High and West Philly High, and how both schools were always in athletic competition in the early

1940's, and was written by reporter Frank Fitzpatrick, who is a well respected writer who always searches for feature topics about the history Of Philadelphia and people who were part of itSuch as Paul Lhulier, a WWII Vet and very proud member of the West Catholic High School Sports Hall of Fame. Paul was an All-Scholastic and All State Offensive guard in 1941 for the West Catholic Boys' football team.

31TH ANNUAL BURRS AT THE BEACH

ALL CLASS REUNION!

Johnnie Walker



West Catholic's 2018
Burrs at the Beach
31st Annual All Class
Reunion will be held
June 24, 2018

Tom Dorrian 61'



I want to announce a few significant changes to the 2018 Burrs at the Beach All Class Reunion.



There will be no more live music (Blackthorn) entertainment. A disc jockey will provide music from the 1950's to current. The sounds will be for our listening and dancing enjoyment.

Westy's Irish Pub in North Wildwood has been sold. Ownership will officially change hands on 11/7/17. The name may change but our event will remain at this location. The new owners want to continue the same relationship as in the past.



Please save the date, Sunday, June 24, 2018 and plan to attend our 31st Annual All Class Reunion. Over the last few years attendance has noticeably declined.

We hope to reverse this trend in 2018. The lack of an <Emissary> and no formal advertising hurt us in 2017. Since

1988, the first year of B@B to 2017 we have raised over \$700,000.00 for student tuition assistance. This money is a very important reason, along with other significant donations, the doors of West Catholic remain open. We must continue to raise funds through our All Class Reunions to keep the great tradition of West Catholic

alive in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

At our most recent reunion in 2017 we had 650 attendees which allowed the Burrs at Beach Committee through the Alumni Association to present a check for \$15,000.00 to West Catholic High School. These are decent numbers compared to all other class reunions but nowhere close to our all-time high in 2001 of 2637 attendees and a check for \$47,000.00 to the school. I don't ever expect to reach

that number again but it is realistic to reach 1000 attendees and a \$25,000.00 goal. I ask all alumni, alumna and friends of West Catholic to make it to our 2018 Burrs at the Beach Celebration. Spread the word about no more live music and going back to our original laid back old neighbor gathering.

For our classmates of the 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's and 00's who have never taken the opportunity to share in this great experience of friendship and camaraderie we send a heartfelt invitation to join us. With your participation and attendance, we can get this wonderful event back to where we were and continue to support those who were so instrumental in our lives.

The best and most hardworking All Class Reunion Committee of the Burrs at the Beach, and The Alumni Association of West Catholic invite all of you to join us in reaching our goal. GO BURRS!

West Catholic
Burrs at the Beach
31st Annual Reunion

Sunday
June 24, 2018

North Wildwood, NJ

12:00 Noon to
7:00PM

Tickets \$20.00
Pre-Event Sale

\$25.00 at the door



IN MEMORIAM

May They Rest In Peace

| Name | Grad Year | Name | Grad Year | Name | Grad Year | Name | Grad Year | Name | Grad Year |
|------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| Andrew R. Magazzu* | 1938 | Robert J. Gregore* | 1947 | Amato A. Juliano | 1952 | John P. Gallagher* | 1955 | Thomas A. Connell Jr. | 1964 |
| John O. Burghart* | 1938 | Thomas J. Fitzpatrick Jr.* | 1947 | Charles B. Vicker* | 1952 | Joseph B. Dougherty | 1955 | Edward E.M.Wright | 1965 |
| Arthur J. Petrella | 1939 | Thomas J. Simpson | 1947 | Francis B. Brzoska* | 1952 | Leroy J. Downs | 1955 | James J. Keating | 1965 |
| Arthur J. Petrella * | 1939 | Vincent P Davis | 1947 | Joseph Taulane * | 1952 | Mario A D’Alonzo Jr. * | 1955 | Robert A. Bianelli | 1965 |
| George J. Taraborelli | 1939 | Charles H. McGettigan | 1948 | Paul D. Paffett * | 1952 | Patrick A. Lavelle* | 1955 | Robert Feldbaum* | 1965 |
| John A. Hoffman * | 1939 | James J. Ferry * | 1948 | Robert E. Hudome* | 1952 | Edward J. Dugan Jr. | 1956 | James J. Whelan | 1966 |
| John A. O’Donnell* | 1939 | Joseph J. McBryan Jr* | 1948 | Thomas R Stanton | 1952 | Edward M. Burns | 1956 | John J. Kuzmick | 1966 |
| Charles Petron * | 1940 | Michael J Buchanan | 1948 | William H. Kelly * | 1953 | Francis S. Barrett * | 1956 | Stanley Hamilton | 1967 |
| Edward J. Mulligan * | 1940 | Robert J. Nunan * | 1948 | Bernard L. Carr* | 1953 | Robert J Holt Sr | 1956 | Dr Alfred R. Zikowitz | 1967 |
| Rev. John A. Cannon | 1940 | Andrew J DiNardo | 1949 | John M. Lacey Jr* | 1953 | David N. Brennan | 1956 | John J Wolf | 1968 |
| Edward J. Casey | 1941 | Carmen A. Dippolito* | 1949 | John P Corr* | 1953 | Bernard P. Hasson | 1957 | Jon R. Polito | 1968 |
| William F. Strain* | 1941 | Charles F Bloemker* | 1949 | John P. Gibbons | 1953 | David H. Ferris | 1957 | Timothy J. Sheehan | 1968 |
| Andrew J Gormley * | 1942 | Donald J. Shavney * | 1949 | Joseph P. Burke * | 1953 | James A. Bendel | 1957 | Thomas W. Toland Sr. | 1970 |
| John J. Healy* | 1942 | Francis L. Mahoney * | 1949 | Thomas F. Keane Jr. | 1953 | John J. Dougherty Sr. | 1957 | Joseph J. Egan | 1971 |
| John J. Shea | 1942 | Frank C. McLaughlin Jr.* | 1949 | Thomas F. Mayo | 1953 | Joseph L. Scully | 1957 | William M. Karpovich | 1971 |
| Joseph E. VanKirk Sr.* | 1942 | James T. Smith * | 1949 | Victor J. Seichepine * | 1953 | Thomas J. Lego | 1957 | Paul R. Maugeri | 1972 |
| Joseph McDermott | 1942 | John J. Gallagher | 1949 | William P. Horan | 1953 | Bro. Kenneth E. Cooke, FSC | 1958 | Joseph A Courtney | 1972 |
| Edward J. O’Halloran | 1943 | John P. Hafferty* | 1949 | Robert L. Bersheim * | 1953 | Charles R. Driscoll | 1958 | Jeffrey W. Kline | 1973 |
| John C. Conway | 1943 | Morris Lasorda * | 1949 | Albert M. Juliano | 1954 | Phillip H. Carson | 1958 | Charles E. Rupp Jr. | 1974 |
| John P. Gillane * | 1943 | William J. Liney | 1949 | Donald J. Dougherty Sr.* | 1954 | Thomas C. McClain | 1958 | David Battagliese | 1974 |
| Robert J. White | 1943 | Francis J. Conroy Sr. | 1949 | Francis E. O’Neil* | 1954 | George A. Gans * | 1959 | Michael J Nolan | 1974 |
| Charles A. Pastore* | 1944 | Alfred R. Zencak * | 1950 | John W. Vencius | 1954 | Richard Kropinski* | 1959 | Thomas M. Felder | 1974 |
| Francis I. Corey* | 1944 | Arthur A. Cassidy | 1950 | Joseph J. Iandolo | 1954 | George C. Beck | 1960 | Andrew J. D’Alonzo | 1975 |
| James J Waters | 1944 | Dr. Joseph A Walsh Jr. | 1950 | Joseph W Farrow | 1954 | Joseph G. Kennedy | 1960 | Mario C. Ragone Jr. | 1975 |
| Rev. John J McVeigh* | 1944 | Frank Culbertson* | 1950 | Joseph W, Nagle * | 1954 | Joseph P. Donato | 1960 | Walter King | 1975 |
| John B. Ivers* | 1945 | Geffrey B. Kelly | 1950 | Neil F. McAllister, Ph.D | 1954 | Nicholas F. Gerace * | 1960 | John Kenny | 1976 |
| Joseph M. Korkus * | 1945 | James J. Larkins* | 1950 | Paul J. Scott | 1954 | Patrick J. Cawley Jr.* | 1960 | William Perry | 1976 |
| Rev. Msgr. Richard J. Skelly | 1945 | John J Jones* | 1950 | Robert J. O’Donnell * | 1954 | William A Feeley | 1961 | John J. Kenny | 1977 |
| Robert F McGinley* | 1945 | Joseph E. McMenamin | 1950 | Joseph F. Mullin * | 1954 | Arthur R. Summers | 1961 | John J. Kenny | 1977 |
| Francis A Nealon* | 1946 | Joseph Prince | 1950 | Bernard J Edmondson* | 1955 | Mario C. Romano | 1961 | William R. Bowes | 1978 |
| John F. Logue* | 1946 | Joseph R. O’Toole * | 1950 | Edward C. Harkin Esq.* | 1955 | Carl A. Williams * | 1962 | Bernard F. Malseed Jr. | 1978 |
| Thomas J. Mercadante * | 1946 | Thomas Spreman * | 1950 | Edward D. Layden * | 1955 | Thomas J McCullough | 1962 | Joseph R. Matteo | 1979 |
| Edward J. Chupein * | 1947 | William L. Carney * | 1950 | Edward J. Tallant III * | 1955 | Brian D. McCann Sr. | 1962 | Robert B Tierney | 1979 |
| Edward J. Chupein * | 1947 | Francis W. Zelenkowski * | 1951 | Edward M. Parker | 1955 | Charles W Zwaan* | 1963 | Thomas E. Mapp Jr. | 1979 |
| Francis M. McCaughey * | 1947 | Charles M. Matsinger | 1951 | Francis D. Truax | 1955 | James E. Dooley | 1963 | Philip J, Davis | 1981 |
| Francis P. Martin | 1947 | Gerald J. McManus | 1951 | George W Nelson Jr. | 1955 | Lawrence G. Kennedy* | 1963 | James A. Gibson | 1984 |
| George F. Brady | 1947 | John A. Mellon | 1951 | James S. Kirwin* | 1955 | Robert De Joseph* | 1963 | Donnell Wallace | 1989 |
| Hugh E Curran | 1947 | Joseph L Castagna* | 1951 | James T. Rae* | 1955 | John P. Keenan Jr. | 1964 | Jason J. Schatzman | 1991 |
| John D McGrory | 1947 | Leonard J. Sessa* | 1951 | John M. O’Connor* | 1955 | Leo F. Conway | 1964 | Ian C. Prescott | 2006 |
| John J. Moscony | 1947 | Thomas F. Hegarty * | 1951 | | | Michael P. Murphy | 1964 | | |

* Indicates a Veteran

Please keep the families of our deceased in your prayers

2018 SPORTS HALL OF FAME

The planning for the 2018 Sports Hall of Fame Dinner is beginning. Although an exact date has not been set, an Alumni Weekend is being planned for October 2018. The Weekend will include a Friday night football game with the Inductees being introduced at halftime, followed by the Sports Hall of Fame Banquet on Saturday night. Who is going to be inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame? We do not know that either, however, we are asking you, the Alumni of West Catholic to nominate deserving individuals or teams. The criteria for induction into the Sports Hall of Fame is quite simple: All athletes,coaches, and moderators who have distinguished themselves in

their specific sport(s) during their years at West Catholic are eligible to be a candidate for the Sports Hall of Fame. To be considered for the Sports Hall of Fame, all candidates must be formally nominated by completing the nomination form on the School’s web site (<https://www.westcatholic.org/alumni-support/school-and-sports-hall-of-fame-nomination-form/>), or by sending a letter to Ms. Regina Hairston at the school explaining why you believe your nominee is deserving of being inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame. All nominees will be considered by the Sports Hall of Fame Committee who will make the final decision on those inducted.

WEST CATHOLIC BOYS SCHOOL PRINT AVAILABLE!



The West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys 1916-1989

For thousands of us 49th and Chestnut was our West Catholic home. Now you can own this beautiful, full color 18 x 24 print, original photographic collage by Matt McCauley class of ‘89, The Alumni Association is proud to present this EXCLUSIVE print though our Alumni store for \$49.00! ORDER TODAY at www.WestCatholicAlumni.org