



St. Benedict's

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

...UNTIL JUSTICE ROLLS DOWN LIKE WATERS
AND RIGHTEOUSNESS LIKE A MIGHTY STREAM
MARTIN LUTHER KING J

GRAY BEES AMPLIFY THEIR VOICES

Civic engagement
goes outside
The Hive



THEMOMENT

One More Convo

St. Benedict's Prep marked its 145th Commencement on June 2 with pomp, circumstance and one last impromptu Convo by the Class of 2019. One hundred graduates joined arms, sang, danced and celebrated the enduring bonds of brotherhood formed in daily Convocation at The Hive.

The graduates' last rite of passage came full circle when their Freshman Leader, Tristan Farinhas '15, returned to run the class through the paces and mottos learned during the Freshman Overnight. Valedictorian Giuliano Gomez '19 underscored the point of this new tradition in his address. "St. Benedict's has built us for leadership and brotherhood, and it has applied our strengths and abilities to different groups in order to create a community that works toward a common goal."

Physics Teacher and Fencing Coach Rich Molina '06 gave the Commencement Address. Read what's next for the Class of 2019 in the Decision Day story (page 3) in Buzz from The Hive.



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GREETINGS



Engaged with the World

It's no coincidence that so many of our guys were involved in a host of civic action classes and projects this past year. From the Interdisciplinary Project, Why Vote?, to the Spring Phase courses and even our cultural exchange with the Amal Schools in Israel,

Gray Bees are engaged with the world on a whole new level. The inner voice they discover inside The Hive — the one that teaches them to trust, take a risk or try something new — gets amplified because they connect with people outside the classroom.

As Headmaster, it's immensely gratifying to see our kids convince college students to register to vote, program an app with their new Israeli friends and represent St. Benedict's Prep on the civil rights trail. These are lessons that can last a lifetime and it all stems from a community that encourages teachers, coaches and monks to structure curriculum that is most relevant to kids' lives.

There's a lot more exciting news in this issue of *St. Benedict's Prep Magazine*. We said farewell to 100 graduates at our 145th Commencement and 97% of them are headed to college or military service. The life of Newark Abbey continues to grow and strengthen; I hope you are as encouraged as I am by our three newest monks and the ways they are accompanying a new generation of Gray Bees.

Finally, at our Annual Scholarship Gala, I announced that *Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School* reached \$71 million of its \$100 million goal. It's now at \$72 million. This is a significant milestone, but a campaign this big and consequential requires the participation of everyone. Let's get this done. You can make your gift at sbp.org/forever.

On behalf of the School and Newark Abbey, thank you for the support and faith you put in St. Benedict's. We couldn't do it without you.

Peace,

Edwin D. Leahy

Fr. Edwin D. Leahy, O.S.B. '63
Headmaster



St. Benedict's
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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On the cover: Juan Perez '19 at the Civil Rights Memorial, Southern Poverty Law Center, Montgomery, Ala.

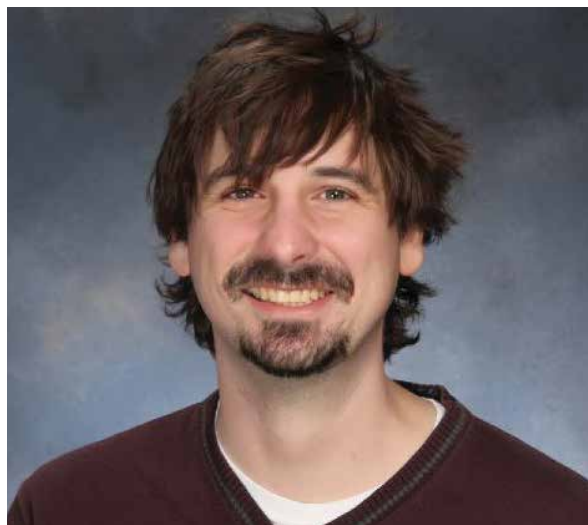
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Visit the New Gray Bee Store

You can only get this "Benedict's Hates a Quitter" infant onesie from one place — the new Gray Bee Store! St. Benedict's Prep partnered with a new online merchandiser in July and now offers a wider assortment of products and price points.

In addition to hoodies, t-shirts and hats, the expansive online store stocks a wider selection of fan wear, plus mugs, key chains and Gray Bee gear for pets. You can even order gift certificates for your favorite Gray Bees. In addition to showing your St. Benedict's pride, a portion of every purchase benefits The Hive. Visit GrayBeeShop.com.



PASSION FOR LATIN

The upcoming school year represents a homecoming for Daniel Kane '03. A longtime high school teacher, he is returning to St. Benedict's Prep to take on a new position combining two things he holds dear — The Hive and Latin. Mr. Kane, who taught Latin for many years at Tottenville High School in New York, has been charged with establishing a Latin program for the St. Benedict's Middle Division. "I always imagined I'd be back at Benedict's someday," he said. "I'm where I am today because of this school."

Mr. Kane first enrolled at The Hive in seventh grade. He took Latin and enjoyed it so much that he went on

to study the subject in high school, never dreaming that it would lead to a teaching career. At Oberlin College, he majored in Latin and ancient Greek. In addition to teaching at Tottenville High School, he was also adviser to the National Junior Classical League.

Latin is extremely relevant to academic and life success, the veteran educator pointed out. While the language is touted for helping to boost high school students' SAT scores, it also teaches them how to think. "Latin is a building block for everything we do," Mr. Kane noted. "For instance, the thought processes between Latin sentence structure and math word problems is really similar. Latin shows students how to break things down and solve problems."

During the fall semester, Mr. Kane will teach St. Benedict's eighth graders, preparing them to sit for the National Latin Exam. In the spring, seventh graders will study the language. He hopes that incorporating Latin in the Middle Division will spark a love for the language that encourages students to continue their studies in high school. Yet, more than that, he'd like to be a positive influence on Gray Bees, just like the St. Benedict's teachers who mentored him.

"St. Benedict's is a place that is exceptional, and I believe I can make a difference here," Mr. Kane said. "The Middle Division program is strong and valuable. These are really important years, and I want to be there to help move these kids in the right direction. I like to think that Benedict's is building the next generation of thinkers."

DIGITAL MAKEOVER AT THE ABBEY

The Benedictine Monks of Newark Abbey have launched a new website that provides an inside look at life in the monastery. New content, including a user-friendly design and updated information, now makes it easier than ever to meet the monks and learn more about vocations within the Benedictine order.

The site also allows visitors to read the latest news, explore the role of Benedictine volunteers, search history, view the facilities, and much more. Connect with the monks at newarkabbey.org



Latest at Newark Abbey



Br. Asiel M. Rodriguez and Mr. Stephen G. Aduaboto Graduate with Advanced Theological Degrees and with High Honors

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Blessings and a Joyous Easter Season

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Br. Asiel M. Rodriguez and Mr. Stephen G. Aduaboto Graduate with Advanced Theological Degrees and with High Honors

DECISION DAY



With their St. Benedict's diplomas in hand, the Class of 2019 is already making its mark on the world. The Hive's most recent graduates have enrolled in colleges and trade schools, are embarking on military careers and entering the workforce.

Gray Bees are becoming extremely savvy about choosing colleges that will provide the best education with the least amount of debt, said Didier Jean-Baptiste, Esq. '86, Dean of Seniors and College Placement. "This year, our guys have chosen very

solid and competitive middle tier colleges," Mr. Jean-Baptiste explained. "They come from a small community here at Benedict's, so we encourage them to look at schools with that same sense of community."

Members of the class will attend universities including Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Boston College, Villanova University, Lehigh University, Stevens Institute of Technology, Stetson University, the University of Delaware, Rutgers University, Fairfield University and many others.

WHERE THEY'RE HEADED



82%
four-year
college



12%
community college/
trade school



3%
military or
workforce



3%
college
undecided



CULTURAL EXCHANGE

For the second year, St. Benedict's Prep forged international connections with students from Israel. Gray Bees teamed up with students from the Amal Schools in Hadera to promote cultural exchange and begin development of a new app called FitBuddy, which will allow exercise buffs to connect and work out together.

The Israeli teens visited The Hive for 10 days in the spring, experiencing the School's unique culture while building an outline, marketing plan and new website for the app. They also traveled to Manhattan for a Broadway show and stops at Times Square and the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. Several weeks later, Gray Bees boarded a flight to Israel for the second leg of the exchange.

Before the Israeli students departed for home, St. Benedict's History Teacher Richard Gallerani, who is a wood carver, presented them with a hand-carved statue of Moses and a mezuzah, a decorative case containing a piece of parchment inscribed with verses from the Torah, which is affixed to the doorpost of Jewish homes.

WELCOMING CARDINAL TOBIN



Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R., Archbishop of Newark, delivered an address at Convocation on March 22, opening a Day of Reflection for the St. Benedict's Prep community. During his presentation, Cardinal Tobin discussed the importance of education and leading a life in service to others, quoting passages from the Talmud, Quran and the New Testament to reinforce his message.

Later, the School presented the Cardinal with an original painting by Elvin Alicea '19. The mixed media canvas depicts St. Benedict and his monastery in Norcia, Italy, as well as Cardinal Tobin and Saint Meinrad Archabbey in Indiana, where the Cardinal previously served as Archbishop of Indianapolis. Elvin later told *The Benedict News*, The Hive's student newspaper, "When the gift was presented to the Cardinal, I felt a sense of peace from his surprised reaction. He really liked his new gift, and I was honored to create it."



Murals above: Marchers on the Edmund Pettus Bridge by Jahlil Cooke '21; top right: National Guardsmen approach marchers, by Samuel Kusi '19; right: marchers stand their ground, including John Lewis in front in trench coat; ABC filmed the attack and the subsequent broadcast was responsible for alerting Americans of the violence, by Diego Serrano '19.



RAISING GRAY BEE VOICES



The Spring Phase civil rights movements class on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Selma, Ala. The experiential learning trip took the class to Virginia, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.

“Are you disappointed in our generation?” The question was on the mind of Kevin Jackson ’20 when he interviewed Georgette Norman, retired Director of the Rosa Parks Museum in Montgomery, Ala. Kevin was among the group of nine Gray Bees on an 18-day journey for the Spring Phase course, *Insights from Newark: An Exploration of the American South and the History of Civil Rights Movements*.

By the time the group met Ms. Norman and Morris Dees, Co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center, they’d read *The Blood of Emmett Till*, the account of the 1955 lynching of an African American youth in Mississippi. The class researched and visited a host of historic sites, from the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, where four girls were killed by a bomb planted by white supremacists in 1963, to the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, a tribute to those who died fighting for equal rights between 1954 and 1968. They also grappled with the sacrifices previous generations made in the fight for their constitutional rights and came to new realizations about themselves.

“I have so much power and opportunity to speak up for other people. Who am I not to live up to my potential?”

“I really thought about kids getting hosed because they marched for their rights and how many people died or were lynched in this struggle,” Kevin recalled. Ms. Norman’s advice — to be the bridge that connects people — also struck a deep chord. “I have so much power and opportunity to speak up for other people,” he added. “Who am I not to live up to my potential?”

YOUR VOICE. YOUR VOTE.

All around The Hive, students are engaging with important social and political issues and learning that they can be agents of change through a number of Spring Phase courses and Interdisciplinary Projects. “I thought the kids really needed well-rounded, informative, civic education,” said English Teacher Justin Ross, who introduced the course, Youth Civic Action during Spring Phase 2018. With the New Jersey primary and midterm elections approaching, the class researched voter registration laws, volunteered on a local campaign and organized voter registration drives that registered more than 250 people.

“I didn’t understand the voter registration process at all,” recalled Jose Garcia-Orozco ’19, who, along with his classmates, became well versed with the state’s voting laws. “After the first or second day, I was so excited about the class because we were actually getting youth to vote.”

The group certainly encountered plenty of rejection on local college campuses where they organized drives. “The kids had to learn to use persuasive speaking skills and how to respond to someone who says, ‘no,’ or ‘I don’t vote,’” explained Mr. Ross. “And once they registered a voter, they were empowered to understand that they really could influence someone’s opinion.”

Many kids who took the Spring Phase class wanted the project to continue to see what they could do better, and Civic Action became a club in fall 2018. Students continued to organize voter registration drives, accompanied people to the polls and encouraged Gray Bees who were 18 and eligible to vote to do just that in the 2018 midterm election.

Jose, now a freshman at Villanova University, said he learned a lot from having the opportunity to advocate for change outside The Hive. “Your vote is your voice,” he said. “We can really make a change, whether it’s convincing people to vote or talking to a public official. For me, it was the best way to project my voice.”

SOCIAL JUSTICE AT THE FOREFRONT

Chair of the Fine Arts Department Pamela Wye-Hunsinger H’18 said a confluence of events brought voting rights and other issues of social justice to the forefront over the past year. “After the 2016 presidential election, some of us teachers became more politically active, as did



Youth Civic Action, a Spring Phase course in 2018, organized multiple voter registration drives.





Nine Gray Bees took the School's first ever class road trip through the Civil Rights Trail.



Murals above: Montgomery Alabama Statehouse by Giuseppe Loiacono '21; below: marchers gather after the March at the Montgomery Statehouse to hear speakers, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., by Jonathan Houston '21.

many Americans," she explained. Ms. Wye-Hunsinger, for instance, campaigned for change in her local congressional district and steered students toward Get Out the Vote drives, which triggered schoolwide conversations on voting issues. The Marjory Stoneman Douglas High

School shooting in 2018, and the subsequent activism of Parkland, Fla., teens also motivated Gray Bees to try to effect change in their own communities. Youth Civic Action class members even met with Emma González, one of the leaders of the national movement to combat gun violence and bolster civic engagement, when she visited the School last year.

Why Vote? became the focal point of the 2018-2019 Interdisciplinary Project spanning academic subjects from art to environmental science and public health. The implications of voting were also explored in different contexts, such as the Drama Guild production of *Miss Evers' Boys* and protest music of social movements in Chorus, Middle School Band and Wind Ensemble.

Some of the most tangible outcomes of the Why Vote? project were the compelling portraits, murals and posters produced by the Freshman and Advanced Art classes. Freshmen created a voting rights timeline from 1776 to 2001 that documented how the right to vote was denied to populations for centuries of U.S. history. Students in Advanced Art studied photographs and news footage of watershed moments like Bloody Sunday, the 1965 beating of peaceful demonstrators by police on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Ala. Their depiction of history in large-scale pieces proved gripping and thought provoking.

"Our kids learn the visual and verbal means of storytelling," said Ms. Wye-Hunsinger. "People can get a real feeling for what this issue entails, because students came to their own understanding of why voting is important in a democracy."

A PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT

In most American classrooms, the Civil Rights Movement covers a few well-known figures and pivotal events. The Interdisciplinary Projects and Spring Phase courses at St. Benedict's certainly touched on this, but also examined the role ordinary men, women and children played and continue to play in the struggle for justice and equality.

Art students, for instance, studied the little-known story of activist Jimmie Lee Jackson, whose brutal murder by an Alabama state trooper sparked the Selma to Montgomery marches and subsequent Voting Rights Act of 1965. When Justin Ross broadened the focus on his Spring Phase course from voter registration to community activism in 2019, students decided to attend a Perth Amboy rally in support of driver's licenses for undocumented workers and interviewed activists who'd worked on the issue for years. All along the civil rights road trip through Virginia, Alabama, Mississippi and

“We're going to be the drop in the bucket and hopefully that has a ripple effect.”

Tennessee this spring, students met with national figures, as well as lifelong residents, community volunteers, teachers, students and others who shared personal histories and spoke frankly about racial tensions that continue to this day.

“This was a people's movement,” said Dean of Administration Mike Scanlan H'97, who led the course with Science Department Chair Dennis Lansang, M.D. “These were regular people who stepped up, they didn't know where it was going to end.” That uncertainty stuck with Benedict's students. “We asked ourselves many times on this trip, ‘Would we have the bravery to suffer through the trauma people went through in this struggle?’” said Kevin Jackson, explaining why every Gray Bee pledged to stand up to intolerance, hate and injustice at The Wall of Tolerance at the Civil Rights Memorial Center in Montgomery, Ala.

Visitors to the memorial make the pledge by adding their name, which appears with thousands of others in a continuous digital scroll. Dr. Lansang cautioned the group beforehand, “Don't add your name just to see it up there or because other people are doing it. Do it because you are committed and prepared to stand up whenever you see injustice.”


TAKING LESSONS FORWARD

“Everyone took the pledge seriously,” Kevin continued. “Agreeing to stand up to injustice is a small way to thank the people who came before us. We're all going to take that with us.” Wood-May Joseph '19, who is headed to Connecticut College, agreed. After seeing the inequalities of the Coahoma County educational system in rural Mississippi through the eyes of local teachers and students, he has

even thought about returning one day. “I don't know how or when, but I can definitely see myself back there to help with education,” he said. Kevin, meanwhile, plans to put the lessons from the civil rights trail to use as Group Leader of Fr. Thomas Long, O.S.B. He wants to motivate his group to work together better and speak up more, even if it's addressing harmful comments kids make under the guise of kidding around. “I hope to really motivate guys to put their best foot forward,” said Kevin. “It's the small acts that lead to bigger things.”

The teachers who led all the civic action projects take the long-term view. “We are not going to change the world in five weeks, but we are going to do our part,” said Mr. Ross in regard to the outcomes of his Spring Phase course on community activism. “We're going to be the drop in the bucket and hopefully that has a ripple effect.” Mr. Scanlan and Dr. Lansang are heartened to see kids continue to process the intellectual and emotional aspects of their journey. “We had to be very reflective, every part of the trip,” said Dr. Lansang. “Every day, students were journaling, writing blog posts or participating in roundtable discussions to process all we'd seen and experienced. It becomes much more real to the kids.”

“They did take it very personally,” added Mr. Scanlan. “The question now is, will they act on it?”

Headmaster Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 certainly hopes so. After all, the Spring Phase courses and Interdisciplinary Projects have always been about getting kids more engaged with the world. “Let's see where they are six months from now,” he said. “There is no universal way to respond. Different kids have different gifts. Our goal is to get them to recognize their responsibility when they see injustice or suffering and figure out how they are going to respond to it. My hope? They use these lessons and experiences to become bridge builders to others.” 

Read about the Gray Bee alumni who hosted students and faculty at sbp.org/raisingvoices.



Gray Bees met with faculty and students from Coahoma County Junior-Senior High School.



“I came here to be a monk and everything else that came with it.”

After Class caught up with the newest monks of Newark Abbey – Br. Simon Peter Clayton, O.S.B. '08, Br. Asiel Rodriguez, O.S.B. and Br. Mark Martin Dilone, O.S.B. – for a conversation about their respective roles at St. Benedict's Prep and how they are accompanying current and future generations of Gray Bees.

Can you tell us about your current responsibilities at St. Benedict's Prep and the role you are playing with kids today?

Br. Simon: Right now, my main interaction with the students is Leahy House. We try to create an environment where students have a voice in forming the community they want in the house, and on top of that, be able to grow not only in their work, but also spiritually. I go to seminary at Seton Hall University full time, so I'm not on the grounds as often as I would like. As much as I can, I attend counseling groups in the Steven M. Grossman Counseling Center, such as Unknown Sons, Blue Man Group, Anger Management and Alateen. Alateen is the main one because I have a personal connection with that.

Br. Asiel: I just finished my second year teaching religion and ESL. In August, I'll teach ESL to the new guys we get from Brazil, Bolivia and Spain, so they're ready for September. Then during the school year, I'll have that first block of ESL every day just for them. I don't want to just be the teacher with these kids, so I do homework with them in the evenings in Leahy House. I advocate for them and interact with their parents.

I think I'll be teaching Spanish in the coming year because that's a need right now. I also serve as the faculty moderator for one of our groups, Fr. Thomas Long, O.S.B., which is something I do enjoy because I get to interact with the students on a daily basis. I'm on top of their grades and get to know their struggles.

Br. Mark: I'm going to be teaching a medieval history class in Summer Phase. I was a teacher for about nine years and taught social studies, religion and Spanish. For me, what's important are the transferable skills kids get in a class. Content is important and they should know it, but how do you get a teenager to become interested in the material and transfer analytical skills to everyday life?

Also, it's not just about skills. It's about, how does the kid feel in your classroom? How do we imbue kids with Christian values? A lot of that comes from the interaction

(Center L to R): Br. Mark Martin Dilone, O.S.B., Br. Asiel Rodriguez, O.S.B. and Br. Simon Peter Clayton, O.S.B. '08 with Julian Tapia '20 (far left) and Chukwubuike (Richard) Ohia '20 (far right).

between yourself and the student. For the upcoming school year, we're still trying to work out where I might be involved because I'm also full time at the seminary. So, we'll see where it goes, but I'm excited. I really am.

Each in your own way has been shaping the lives of Benedict's kids. What have the students taught you?

Br. Asiel: I dedicated my thesis to my students because they were very much involved in the process of writing it. On the first page I wrote, "Although you call me teacher, I was the one who was learning." A lot of what I've learned from the students is patience, which is something I have struggled with. I also learned how to interact with others when they have a different way of thinking. Just look at my ESL class; seven guys from seven different countries and somehow they all became friends and built relationships. So, I've learned so much from watching those interactions.

Br. Mark: Perseverance. When you hear the struggles that a kid has been through and he can still hold his head up and come up and say, "Hi," it's really amazing. You also learn a lot about community by watching how the kids interact with one another. I'm always amazed when a kid comes up — and I may not know his name — but he knows me. You feel part of this larger community. It isn't just my monastic brothers.

Br. Simon: I don't know how to top those two. I think for me, it's learning to see God in some of these kids. That involves educating kids — not just teaching them — but educating them, which requires a 360 degree type of response. You educate them, but they also educate you.

For example, if I make a comment to a student, he might be comfortable enough to respond, "I didn't like the way you said that because it hurt me or made me feel a certain way." I can imagine, generally, an adult who hears that would say, "Who are you to be talking to me like that?" But that's not what this environment is all about. We have to give students a voice and not let our ego get in the way. So, you learn to say, "I'm sorry. I didn't mean to hurt your feelings." It deepens the relationship.

How do you balance the demands and weight of your job with your life as a Benedictine monk?

Br. Asiel: There are two things that are very important here, and they are very much connected: prayer and community. I've dealt with kids who have come through tough situations this past year. How do you accompany them in a healthy way? A huge part is being in prayer.

When you go to sleep at night, you lay everything in God's hands. The next day, you're alive, and say, "Hey, I'm still here." You go to Vigils, our morning prayer at 6:00 a.m., where we are reminded of the resurrection of Jesus. Hopefully, we can convey this enormously positive message to our students.

Midday prayer is really difficult, because it's in the middle of everything! Yet, it's a great reminder to me that I didn't come here to be a teacher or a group moderator. I came here to be a monk and everything else that came with it.

Br. Mark: Well, I think a lot of it has to do with community life, but also, I think for me, I'm looking forward to teaching because that will be another form of balance. So far, it's been very much monastic life within the monastery and without a specific apostolate, so I'm really looking forward to bringing another form of balance into my life. And the other is the space for private prayer, which is really important. We have it and that's a wonderful thing.

Br. Simon: I remember when I first got here, I was frequenting ShopRite so much for the monastery kitchen I told them they needed to have a room for me. One day, I ran into someone who needed to talk, and ended up speaking to this person for 2 ½ hours in the grocery aisle. When I got back, I'm kind of anxious because I missed Mass and Vespers, and thought, "I'm in trouble." I think it was Fr. Albert who said, "Well, you know, that's a form of prayer, too."

That really clarified things for me, because it's easy to get caught up in the structure of our prayer schedule. That's the thing about Benedictine monasteries; historically, they became centers of the city. And we are very much living that right now, serving our community. It's not the traditional way I would view it, but for me, that incident in ShopRite helped me grow in my understanding of what prayer means. I really appreciate when things like that happen because I know I did what, hopefully, God needed me to do. **B**

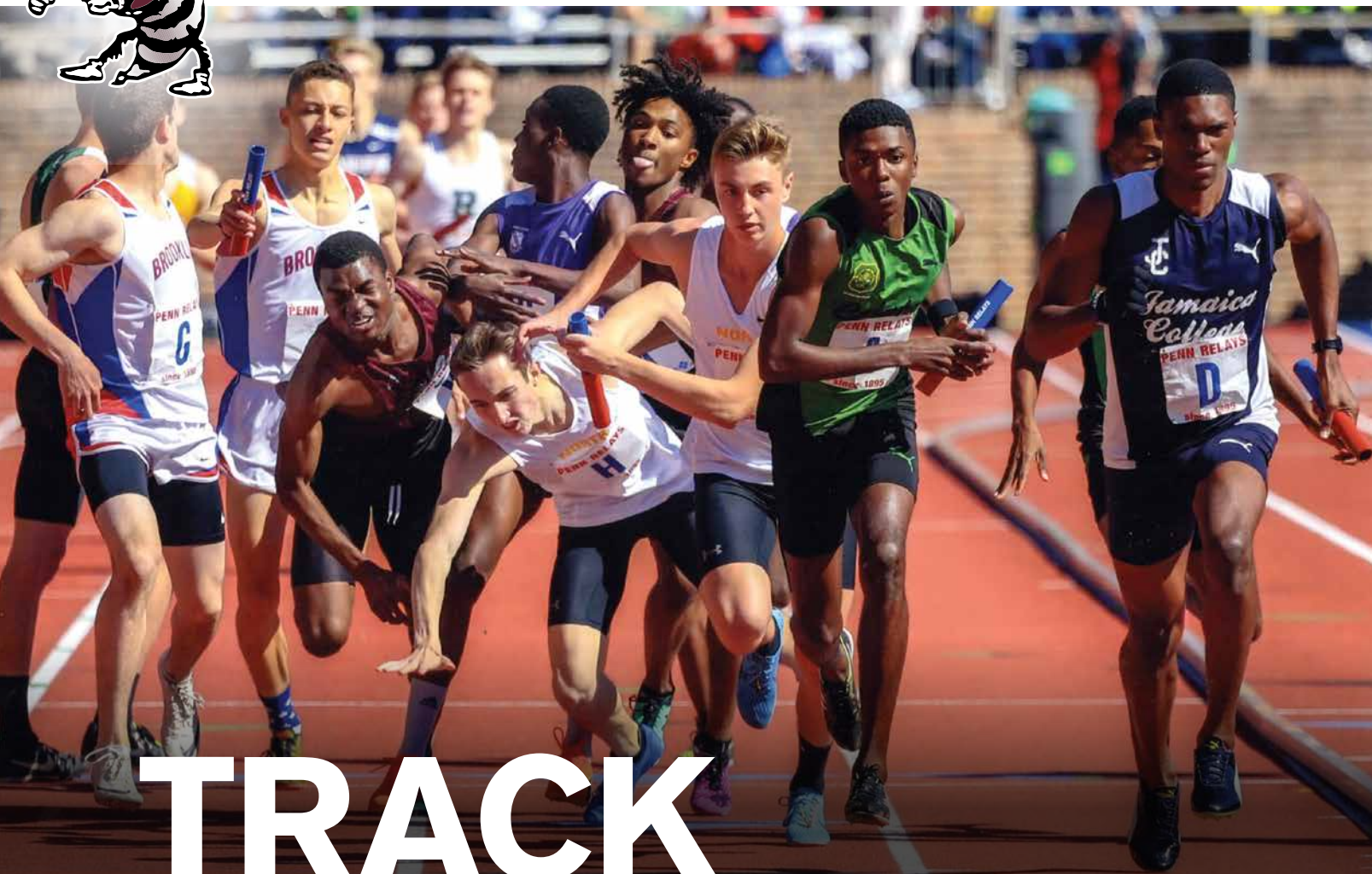
The Benedictine Monks of Newark Abbey would like your input. The Abbey recently welcomed Postulant Moises Islas, and two other Postulants are expected this summer. Even with this renewed interest in vocations from other parts of the country and world, a crucial question remains. Is there a way to engage more alumni — who know, understand and love St. Benedict's — in conversations about vocations? Send your thoughts and ideas to vocations@sbp.org.



FAITHFUL COMPANION TO ALL

Those who know Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60 — whether for a few years or a lifetime — had a lot to say about the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. "He sees the spirit in everything around him," said Jacob Amaro '19, who explained how Fr. Albert finds God in an ordinary walk down Market Street in Newark. "He always talked to us as if we were grown up and our opinions mattered," recounted Drama Guild Director Patricia Flynn H'95, who met the Benedictine monk in high school when she performed in St. Benedict's productions. Headmaster Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 called Fr. Albert "a faithful companion to all of us," and said, "He is the master of novices. He's the teacher of everybody who wants to come to our community to become a monk; they learn if first from Albert."

These comments and more were captured in a student-produced video shown at the celebration of Fr. Albert's 50 years of priesthood on March 23. Members of Fr. Albert's family, including his sister, Sr. Regina Holtz, F.S.P., the monks of Newark Abbey, students and faculty of St. Benedict's Prep and many parishioners Fr. Albert has ministered to over the years attended the Mass and luncheon.



TRACK TALENT RUNS DEEP

Lewis Nwgenya '19 stopped a near-fall on the first handoff of the 4x800 meter relay at the Penn Relays. The foursome – Lewis, Jackson Burnett '19, Ronald Kigen '19 and Alfred Chawonza '19 – recorded the fastest time in the U.S. for the outdoor season. Photo credit: *The Star-Ledger*

The St. Benedict's Prep 4x800 meter relay had a score to settle at this year's Penn Relays – and settle it they did. The foursome of Jackson Burnett '19, Lewis Nwgenya '19, Ronald Kigen '19 and Alfred Chawonza '19 recorded the fastest time in the U.S. for the outdoor season, placing third in the Championship of America event. The effort was the second fastest 4x800 in St. Benedict's history. Lewis stopped a near-fall on the first handoff to save the day for the Gray Bees, avoiding a devastating déjà vu. In the same race last year, leadoff leg Jackson tripped with 300 meters to go. "Jackson got up and finished that race, but he was broken-hearted," recalled Head Coach Dwayne Cox. "Our goal this year was to be the top American team."

During the indoor season earlier this year, the squad bettered its own indoor school record to place third at New Balance Nationals in New York City. At the same event, Lewis, Jackson and Alfred combined with Isaiah Sanchez '19 in the 4x400 to win the national title and set a new school record. "This core group was as good as any I've ever seen," Mr. Cox said. "We do have some younger guys on the team who, if they had been on any other team, would have been 'A' guys. Now, they'll take their place as seniors."

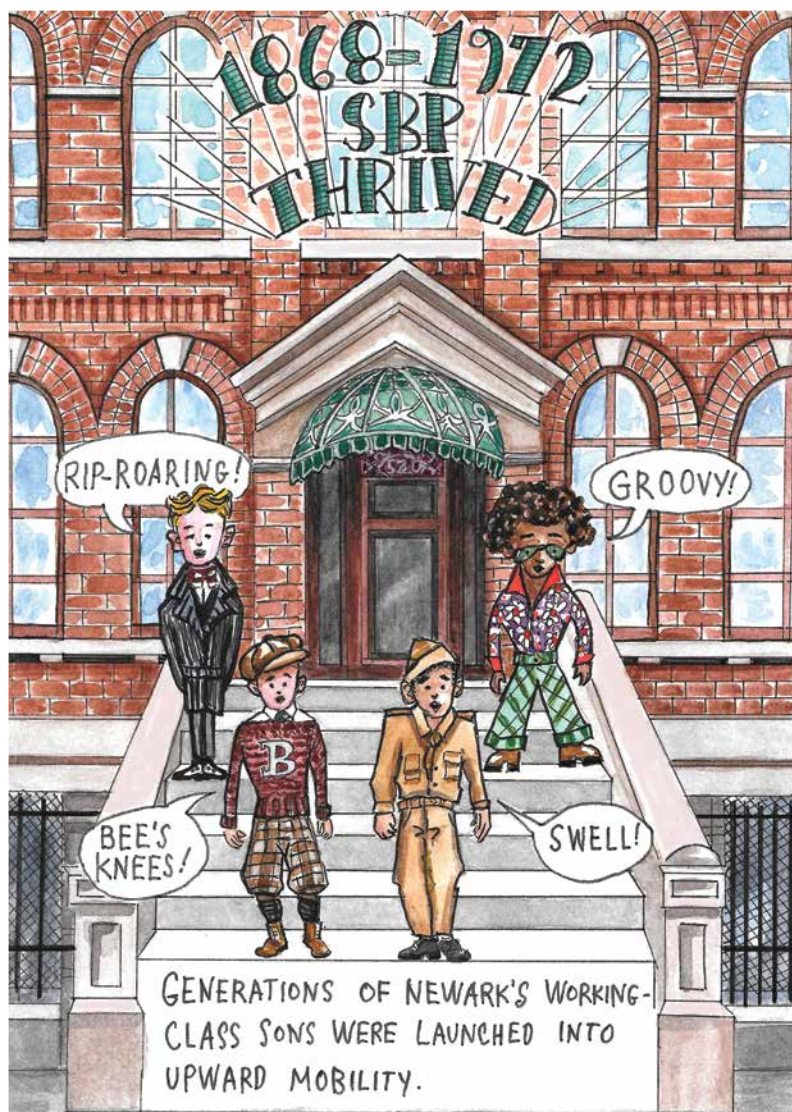
“Our goal this year was to be the top American team.”

The program's depth goes way beyond the group Mr. Cox dubbed the "Big 5." Ronald was one of the best cross country runners in the nation this year, while the shuttle hurdle relay team of Tyler Antoine '19, Urijah Williams '20, Adrian-Paul Morgan '19 and Jahari Mitchell '20 raced to fourth place and a school record at New Balance Nationals. Also at indoor nationals, Alfred and Isaiah teamed with Greg Anthony Jones '20 and Malachi Little '20 for a second place sprint medley finish.

Of this year's talented class, Alfred made the most noise on the track for the Gray Bees. Often compared to legendary distance ace Edward Cheserek '13, Alfred notched the fastest indoor 800-meter time (1:50.61) in the nation, breaking Mr. Cheserek's indoor school record by nearly two seconds. Communications Officer Ron Jandoli noted that Alfred came to St. Benedict's for his sophomore year from his home country, Zimbabwe. "He doesn't like the comparison with Cheserek," said Mr. Jandoli. "He's always wanted to make his own identity."

Mr. Cox added that determination marked Alfred's tenure at The Hive: "He never shies away from a challenge, on the track or in the classroom. He's a fun-loving guy, but then he becomes a warrior on the track. He's as fearless as I've ever seen."

The national success enjoyed by the Gray Bees takes a village, Mr. Cox acknowledged. In addition to his runners, he credits Coaches Anthony Smith and Dave Alfano, as well as team parents, who entrusted their children to St. Benedict's. "This group has left a legacy that's going to be really hard to beat," Mr. Cox said. "I'm proud of them, their parents and this coaching staff." **B**



A panel from the forthcoming graphic novel *In the Midst of it All: An Incomplete Graphic History of St. Benedict's Prep School, Newark NJ*, by Pamela Wye-Hunsinger H'18.

TELLING THE BENEDICT'S STORY IN A GRAPHIC NOVEL

The story of St. Benedict's Prep has been told in countless mediums: newspaper articles, books and on *60 Minutes*. Now, a new audience will discover The Hive in a forthcoming graphic novel by Pamela Wye-Hunsinger H'18, Art Department Chair.

The title of the graphic story, *In the Midst of it All*, comes from the song Gray Bees sing every morning at Convocation. Ms. Wye-Hunsinger calls it an incomplete graphic history because she uses her signature style to illustrate a few key events in the School's 150-year narrative. "If people don't know Benedict's, they are fascinated by the story," she said. The graphic novel opens with the Sesquicentennial Convocation and goes on to highlight the School's early days, closing in 1972 and re-opening the following year. The story then segues to Spring Phase, focusing on two projects, The Trail and Stage Rage, a newer program that engages students in an inner exploration of trauma and suffering through the performing arts.

In the Midst of it All will be published later this year on *Spiralbound*, a section devoted to comics, art and illustration on the online publishing platform medium.com.

80s, 90s and 00s Classes

CARRY THE TORCH



Edwan Davis '86



Chris Rodriguez '90



Husain Gatlin '03

Gray Bees have always been deeply invested in St. Benedict's Prep. For decades, graduates of the 1950s to early 1970s ensured the School's powerful legacy. Now, a new generation is answering the call.

Edwan Davis '86 spent the better part of three decades building a family and career. A former group leader at St. Benedict's, the Purdue University graduate worked his way up in finance at several companies, spending three years as a Vice President for BD in China.

Returning to New Jersey, he decided to reconnect with The Hive. "I have a little more time in this phase of my life and my career," explained Mr. Davis, who is now a Senior Vice President, Chief Audit Executive at Allergan. "It's hard not to think about what St. Benedict's did for me, and what it can do for others."

When Mr. Davis first enrolled at St. Benedict's in the seventh grade, he thrived with the one-on-one attention. With no father figure at

home, the East Orange youth turned to the late Fr. Mark Payne, O.S.B. '69 for college and career guidance. Many years later, he still credits St. Benedict's with instilling in him important core values like character, personal responsibility and hard work. As a result, he's passionate about supporting the School. "I hadn't been back to Benedict's in 20 years, but it still feels like home," Mr. Davis said. "We all share the same connection."

Mr. Davis is part of an effort that began a few years ago, when The Hive asked more graduates from the 1980s through 2000s to step up for St. Benedict's. Alumni heeded the call. In the 2017-2018 fiscal year, giving hit a new benchmark of 33% alumni participation in the Annual Fund, which essentially supports the day-to-day operations of the School. Between 2014 and 2018, graduates of the 2000s upped their average participation rate by nearly 7 percent, compared to the previous five fiscal years. Nine classes from the 00s saw participation growth. Moreover, eight classes from the 1980s and seven from the 1990s increased their average participation in the same time period.

Class participation IS GROWING

Eight classes from the 80s increased their participation between 2014 and 2018, compared to the previous five fiscal years.

1989
1988
1987
1986
1985
1984
1982
1981

Seven classes from the 90s increased their participation between 2014 and 2018, compared to the previous five fiscal years.

1998
1996
1995
1994
1993
1992
1990

Grads from the 2000s increased their average participation by **7 percent**, and nine classes increased their participation between 2014-2018, compared to the previous five fiscal years.

2008
2007
2006
2005
2004
2003
2002
2001
2000

"Guys from these decades (80s-00s) have been stepping forward. It's heartening to see it," said Michael Fazio, Chief Advancement Officer. "They're telling us they understand that they were the beneficiaries of the guys from the 50s, 60s and 70s. So they're paying it forward. But if Benedict's is going to thrive, we need more of them to get on board."

Looking toward the future, alumni like Mr. Davis will play an increasingly important role in maintaining the School's current participation rate. Accomplishing that goal will take gifts of all sizes, said Farad Lowther '10, Advancement Officer. "It doesn't necessarily involve making a gift with lots of zeros on the end," he explained. "Contributions of any size make a huge difference to our kids. Consistent giving is important because we can rely on those funds, year in and year out, to provide the St. Benedict's education that is so deeply valued by our alumni."

Chris Rodriguez '90 agrees that consistency is key when supporting The Hive. A longtime contributor to the Annual Fund, Mr. Rodriguez feels indebted to the guys who came before him. Not only did Gray Bees of the 1950s through 1970s contribute to the School during Mr. Rodriguez's student days, but several also lent a helping hand at critical points in his career. One of those graduates told him, "All this time and effort I'm spending on your behalf — you have to do it for the people behind you."

Now Global Head of Workflow for Symphony, Mr. Rodriguez has taken that message to heart. In addition to supporting the Annual Fund, he pays it forward by always answering the call from Benedict's guys seeking career advice. "When I was at Benedict's, the history and tradition were instilled in us," he explained. "We knew that the people who came before us built up the School and helped us become who we are today. Now, it's our turn to do the same."

Like Mr. Rodriguez, **Husain Gatlin '03** is a tireless advocate for St. Benedict's. Deeply committed to The Hive and his hometown, Newark, Mr. Gatlin now lives and practices law in the city, a stone's throw from the School. "St. Benedict's does great things for Newark," noted Mr. Gatlin, a graduate of Seton Hall University School of Law who founded his own private practice. "It gives kids an amazing shot at progress."

Mr. Gatlin's Benedict's story began in the seventh grade, when he transferred to The Hive from public school and took his first Latin class. That course eventually led to him excelling on the National Latin Exam in high school, earning a trip to a Latin competition in Rome, and later, attending Georgetown University as a classics major.

The criminal lawyer knows that *Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School* is the best way to ensure the Gray Bee legacy for future generations — including his infant son. "St. Benedict's remains a pillar of hope for the great city of Newark," Mr. Gatlin said. "It gave us the tools to be successful. Now, it's giving those same opportunities to the students behind us. I am indebted to St. Benedict's." **B**

Video interviews of alumni carrying the torch can be viewed online at sbp.org/forever.

Recurring Gifts ADD UP BIG



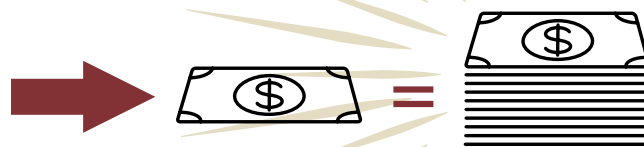
Hendrik Martinez '04

If you would have asked Hendrik Martinez '04 if a \$1,000 gift to St. Benedict's Prep was within his means one year ago, he would have responded, "No way." But with a recurring gift — and an automatic payment of just \$83.33 each month — Mr. Martinez discovered that the improbable was, in fact, quite feasible.

"It's convenient and easy to do," said Mr. Martinez, who set up a recurring monthly gift of \$83.33 last year. "Since the payments are spaced out, it's financially manageable and I get to take a sizable tax deduction at the end of the year. In fact, I'm going to start doing \$100 each month."

The recurring gift also placed Mr. Martinez, who works at Anheuser-Busch and lives in Aberdeen, N.J., into the Monte Cassino Society, a core group of alumni and friends who serve as the foundation of St. Benedict's by making an annual investment of \$1,000 or more. Alumni and friends can establish a recurring gift at any amount, starting at five dollars a month. Here are the options most popular with Gray Bees and how they add up:

\$20.83 per month = \$250 gift
\$41.66 per month = \$500 gift
\$83.33 per month = \$1,000 gift



To set up a recurring gift, visit sbp.org/invest.

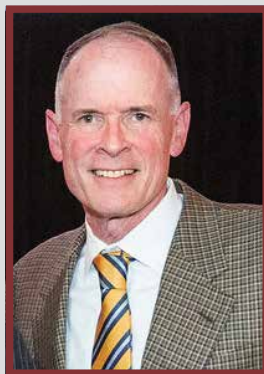
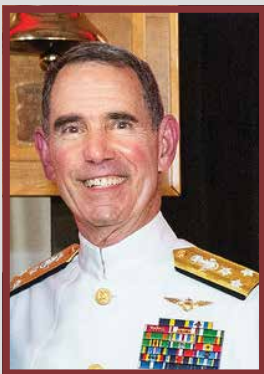
2019 Annual Scholarship Gala

Salute to an Enduring Partnership

The 2019 Annual Scholarship Gala celebrated the enduring partnership between St. Benedict's Prep and the United States Naval Academy. More than 300 Gray Bees, midshipmen and friends of The Hive turned out on May 9 to salute honorees Vice Admiral (Ret.) Michael D. Haskins, Donald L. Laurie '60 and Michael R. Scanlan H'97, whose leadership and efforts were instrumental to the success of the 12-year relationship. The trio was honored with the Medal of St. Benedict's, the School's highest honor.

Each year, the Gala generates significant support for student financial aid and scholarships. Headmaster Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 shared progress of *Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School*, the comprehensive campaign publicly launched in 2018 to secure the future of The Hive. "We have now surpassed \$71 million of our \$100 million goal," Fr. Ed told the enthusiastic crowd in the Dalton Gymnasium. Gray Bees pulled out all the stops for a live fundraising challenge posed by the evening's emcee, Francis Jean-Paul '19. Before the event concluded, guests used their smartphones to generously pledge more than \$40,000 to *Forever Benedict's*. In total, the event netted more than \$200,000.

2019 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GALA HONOREES



(L to R): Vice Admiral (Ret.) Michael Haskins, Donald Laurie '60 and Michael Scanlan H'97 were awarded the Medal of St. Benedict's.



3.



9.

1. Abdul-Haiyy Moore '96 2. Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 and Tyler Hayes '16. 3. Tyler Hayes '16 and Joe Carmona '17 with visiting midshipmen. 4. Members of the Alumni Board: Terrell Jones '01, Br. Simon Peter Clayton, O.S.B. '08, Didier Jean-Baptiste Esq. '86, Vernon June '84, Omari Frazier '91, Tom Kilkenny '61, Fred Davis '83, Stephen Wright '83 (President), Jonathan Nelson '83, Michael Flounoy '93, John Matthews '85, Phil Whyte '83 and Luther Robeson '83. 5. Joe Carmona '17 introduced honoree Michael Scanlan H'97. 6. The evening's emcee, Francis Jean-Paul '19. 7. L to R: Members of the Class of 2019: Jacob Amaro, Michael Melendez, Daron Reyes, Alexis Nimubona, Jack Napoli, Francis Jean-Paul, Alex Oliveira, Arthur Cirino, Damon Wright, Juan Garcia, and Kevin Marin. 8. Mark Curato, M.D., Lauren Curato, M.D., Julie Cawley and Michael Bratus '02 9. Liam Reilly '18 introduced honoree Donald Laurie '60.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

FOREVER BENEDICT'S

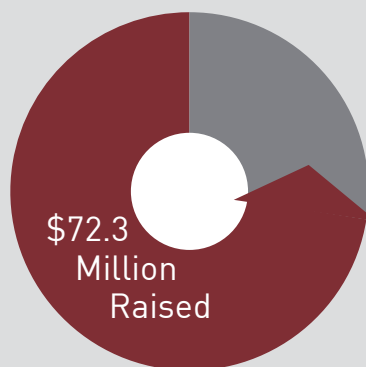


Reaches **\$72 million**

As of June 30, 2019

OVERALL GOAL

\$100 Million

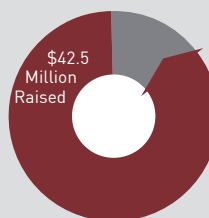


“It's time to give back. You are where you are today because of St. Benedict's Prep. We need your love and help to keep it going.”

- Mike DiPiano H'82

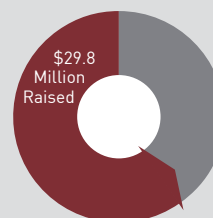
ANNUAL FUND GOAL

\$50 Million



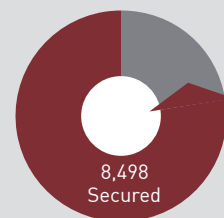
ENDOWMENT GOAL

\$50 Million



DONOR GOAL

11,000



Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School has surged to \$72 million and is on pace to meet its \$100 million goal. The historic campaign has two simple, yet ambitious objectives: raise \$50 million for the Annual Fund and \$50 million for the Endowment to ensure that The Hive is here forever. The success of the *Campaign* depends on the participation of every Gray Bee. Make your gift today at sbp.org/forever.



SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS!

St. Benedict's welcomes any and all news about your career, education, family life and reconnecting with other alumni. Submit news via email to graybee@sbp.org.

1944

Joe Barber was recognized as the "most senior alumnus" at the Senior Alumni Luncheon at the Breakers in Spring Lake on June 7. Joe was the School's first Presidential Award recipient.

1947

Francis Klos has informed us that he turned 90 years old. Happy Birthday!

1955

Fred Colton's grandson, J.P. Colton, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May.

1960

Peter Cahill was featured in the *Coast Star* in February for running 38 of the 41 Spring Lake Five runs. Although he did not run this year, Pete was at the finish line working as an EMT. And one of his daughters and two granddaughters participated, with one finishing among the first 100 women!

1964

Alan Fischer has published his first book, *The Death Mist*, which is a faith-centered memoir of a Navy combat pilot in Vietnam. It includes the names of a few of his classmates. The book is available on Amazon.com.

Robert Wharton is celebrating his granddaughter's first birthday. He says grandparenthood suits him.

1967

Greg Thornton and his wife, who live in Montgomery, Ala., and hosted the students on the St. Benedict's Civil Rights Project in May, wrote that "we had a great gathering with the SBP students, and Mike Scanlan and Dennis Lansang ...at our place. Some folks from Montgomery who are instrumental in the movement and continuing civil rights struggle joined us, and the students had the opportunity to interview them...As the evening closed, we gathered around the piano and grabbed a guitar, and sang for about a half hour. It was quite wonderful and brought home to me the rootedness that St. Benedict's has always provided in my life... and the palpable continuing tradition that thrives there." This summer, Greg, an actor, performed in *Gertrude and Claudius*, an adaptation by Mark St. Germain of the John Updike novel, at the Barrington Stage Company in Pittsfield, Mass.

1968

Jim Hundley reports his retirement has been pushed back in order to finance an expanded Christmas gift list. Last May 21, his daughter-in-law, Lauren, gave birth to identical twin daughters, Gwyneth and Layla. The girls, Mom, Dad (son Todd) and grandparents are all doing well.

Living just five miles away,

Jim ponders opening Pop Hundley's babysitting service! Hmmm...and what will be the cost of three law school credits some 22 years from now?

Joe Moore and his brother, **Kevin '64**, hosted **Mike Scanlan H'97**, Dennis Lansang, M.D., and five Gray Bees at their places on Orr's Island, Maine. Joe wrote, "They spent the afternoon taking pictures of the coast and then we all went out to dinner at an outdoor seafood shack on a wharf."



1969

Ron Felber's sci-fi novel, *The Radiant*, his 12th book, was published by Moonshine Cove Publishing in April.

Gilbert M. Gaul's new book, *The Geography of Risk: Epic Storms, Rising Seas and the Cost of America's Coasts*, is being published September 3 by Farrar, Straus and Giroux. After Hurricane Sandy, Gil spent four years researching the development of the modern coast and the increased threats posed by climate change, sea level rise and larger, more powerful storms — nearly \$800 billion in damage in the last two decades alone. The noted historian and author Douglas Brinkley calls Gil's book "a brilliant wake-up

call" and a "must read." Author and environmentalist Bill McKibben says it is, "A remarkable story. Read this and you'll be better prepared to understand the next few decades."

Will Holub has been awarded a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant during its 2018-2019 grant cycle. The foundation awarded \$3,168,000 to 12 not-for-profit organizations and 111 national and international artists from 18 states, Puerto Rico and 17 countries. Selected by a distinguished committee of art professionals because of the exceptional quality of their work and the extent of their artistic achievement, these artists from around the globe will use their grants to create new work, offset living expenses and prepare for exhibitions. Will, the only Connecticut-based artist to receive a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant in this cycle, is also a recipient of a 2019 Connecticut Office of the Arts Artist Fellowship grant. He lives and works in Old Lyme, Conn. His portraits of Gray Bee wrestlers hang in the HAB entry.

1970

Upon returning from living in Singapore for two and a half years, **Carl Biello** moved to Naples, Fla., in 2015. He recently wrote, "I retired from Prudential after 40 years in 2016. I spend my time golfing (I am terrible), swimming (I swim really slow) napping and traveling to visit my grandkids in New Jersey (ages 5, 10 and 13) and in Seattle, Wash. (age 2). I'll be at SBP in July with my 10-year-old grandson at

St. Benedict's soccer camp. Where better to learn how to become a better goalie than at St. Benedict's? Hope all are well and look forward to seeing my classmates at our 50th reunion next year.

1972

William Brown III received the Man of the Year award from the Men of Faith Ministry of Elmwood United Presbyterian Church of East Orange, N.J.

1982

For the ninth straight year, **David E. DeLorenzi**, Chairman of the Intellectual Property at Gibbons PC, and the firm have been named among *The World's Leading Patent Professionals by Intellectual Asset Management (IAM)*. Selected for his longstanding national patent litigations and transactional practice, IAM said DeLorenzi... "is at the top of his game in life sciences litigation...and garners brilliant market feedback."

1983

The Class of '83 held a mini reunion recently. Bottom row, left to right: **Marvin Bazemore**, **Steve "Squeak" Wright**, **Carl "Curly" Quick**, **Phil Whyte** and **Fred Davis**. Top L to R: **Troy Walker**, **Carlton Campbell**, **Alex McClendon**, **Jonathan Nelson**, **Paul Braswell** and **Nicky Belmonte**. (Photo taken by **Vernon June '84**.)



1985

John Matthews entered a wrestling tournament, "The Bald and the Fat Classic," where he won a gold medal in his bracket. His classmates **Matt Pinckney** and **Monico Nadera**, pictured left to right, attended the event. He then wrestled a grudge match against Michael Nadera, son of his good friend and high school teammate, Monico.



with **David Whigham '86** and **Sanford Davis '83**.



1989

Victor M. Oliveira was recently named Vice President of Product Development & Innovation for North America at Mastercard. Victor's oldest son, Alejandro (Alex), graduated from St. Benedict's on June 2 as a member of the Class of 2019.

1990

Peter Elias sent us this photo of **Jack Voynick '71**, himself, **Edwin Hartung '49**, **John McKee '71**, and **Tom Matthews '68** when these Gray Bees ran into

1986

Kevin Booker (left) celebrated his son's high school graduation with **Tyrone Scott Howard '85** (second from left), along

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

The Hive participates in Amazon's 'Smile' program.

Through the program, Amazon contributes an amount equal to .5% of the total of your purchase (at no additional cost to you) to a charity of your choice.

To make St. Benedict's your designated charity, go to smile.amazon.com, and when prompted for a charity, enter "St. Benedict's Newark." Then find "St. Benedict's Preparatory School" among the different institutions with similar names to ours. You shop, St. Benedict's benefits!

smile.amazon.com

Milestones

CLASS OF 1969 REUNITES IN STYLE

Gray Bees from the Class of 1969 celebrated their 50th anniversary in grand fashion, May 31-June 2. The reunion weekend kicked off with dinner on Friday evening, followed by a Saturday night dinner at Benito's of Union. **Paul Griswold '69**, Chairman and CEO of Terravant Wine Company, provided a specially blended wine from his California vineyards for the occasion.

Prior to receiving their Golden Jubilee diplomas at the 145th Commencement on June 2, class members presented a \$252,000 gift to St. Benedict's Prep. The gift includes a four-year scholarship and the dedication of the physics lab in the name of their late classmate **Fr. Mark Payne, O.S.B. '69** and all of their deceased classmates.



each other at the Upper Montclair Country Club.



1991

Joseph Almeida H'91

wrote, "Our ninth grandchild, Dylan, was born to our daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Amish."

Naml Lewis was nominated as a new member of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of the City of New York. He wrote, "It's a wonderful cultural institution. Add it to your list of must-see places when you're in NYC."

1998

Kyle Dargan's book, *Anagnorisis*, was long-listed for the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in

poetry. He also welcomed a new baby girl named Kaede.

1999

Torian Easterling, the commencement speaker at the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School graduation, was presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. At that ceremony, he received a standing ovation after his impassioned speech urging these new physicians to commit to racial and social justice in their work and to say yes to the challenges that will move our country forward.

2001

Chidi Asoluka was promoted to Dean of the Class of 2023 at Horace Mann School in New York and has started Asoluka Company, a social justice-focused education consulting firm.

Ivan Learmont has accepted the position of Director Hotel Openings, Americas IT – Property Systems Services. In this role, Ivan leads the overall sustainability and success of the Hotel Openings IT team and directs the approach for the set-up and installation of technology in the opening process, while leading the overall team strategies and maintaining accountability for the team's long-term results. Ivan had been a Senior Manager with Americas IT, where he was responsible for leading the Property Voice Strategy for Americas IT, managed hotels in the Americas, and has been with the company for 12 years. His Marriott career began as a Multi-Property Systems Manager for the JW Marriott in Washington, D.C., and the Washington Marriott at Metro

Center. Ivan worked his way up to Area Manager of IT for Washington, D.C., Virginia and West Virginia. He holds both a Master of Science, Hospitality Information Management, and a Bachelor of Science, Computer Engineering, from the University of Delaware. Ivan and his wife, Lora, are also very busy being new parents to their daughter, Sloan.

2007

After graduating from Stanford University with a Bachelor of Arts with honors and Master of Arts in History in 2011, **Nana Osei-Opare** went to UCLA to do his Ph.D. in African History. He completed his Ph.D. in June 2019 and will become an Assistant Professor of African History at Fordham University's Rosehill campus in August 2019.



2011

Darran St. Ange graduated from Seton Hall University School of Law.

2012

Ralph Jean graduated from Manhattan College with a Bachelor of Science in Recreational Therapy.

Frantz D. Soiro will begin Morehouse School of Medicine on August 1. He has launched his private non-profit organization: OneDown Project. The organization has two functions: providing financial assistance to a network of selected educational institutions toward educational

Milestones

RECORD ATTENDANCE FOR SENIOR ALUMNI LUNCHEON

The Senior Alumni Luncheon grows bigger and better each year. The June 7 event, which is for Gray Bees who graduated The Hive 50 years ago or more, drew a record crowd of more than 200 to The Breakers on the Ocean Hotel in Spring Lake, N.J.

Joe Barber '44 was recognized as the oldest alumnus in attendance. The Froelich family — **Larry '65**, **Chris '72** and Susan — were also recognized for their support of 2019 graduates. Five years ago, Susan Froelich and colleague Jennifer Latimer identified two promising Gray Bees from the Clinton Elementary School in the South Orange-Maplewood school district. The students were **Wood-May Joseph '19**, this year's Presidential Award recipient, who will attend Connecticut College in the fall, and Boston College-bound **Manny Ulysee '19**.

The Froelich family, along with Ms. Latimer, hope to continue the tradition of supporting St. Benedict's Prep students in memory of **Greg Froelich '66**.



development in Tanzania and implementing health literacy programs to uplift the educational experience in Tanzania. This year they are raising \$7,000 to build a health learning center for the youth in the Hanga, Tanzania, area to teach basic hygiene. OneDown Project will provide an enriched interactive environment to promote health literacy and student development.

For more information, contact one-downproj@gmail.com.

2015

Ian Garay recently graduated from Saint Vincent College with an engineering science degree and a specialization in mechanical engineering. He wrote, "I am now working for one of the largest suppliers of tooling and industrial materials in the world, Kennametal,

headquartered in Latrobe, Pa. I will also be traveling across the U.S. for this job."



ENGAGEMENTS

AJ Manderichio '06 is engaged to Michelle Lynn Tymich.

Christopher Lowe '09 was engaged to Amanda Quinitchett in March.



MARRIAGES

Mike Falivena '59 and Mary Lou Zehler were married in Venice, Fla. He wrote, "If you're in the Sarasota area, look us up at (941) 456-6453."

Chidi Asoluka '01 was married to Ofunne Edoziem in Anambra State, Nigeria, on March 24.

Nana Osei-Opore, Ph.D. '07 recently married Dr. Vivian Lu.



BIRTHS

Darryl Scipio '93 and his wife welcomed twins in April, a boy, Toussaint, and a girl, Bijoux.

IN MEMORIAM

We have received word that these members of the St. Benedict's community or members of their families have died.

ALUMNI

Edward M. Bien '39
Raymond J. Chrobot '45
John R. Lamport '45
F. Walter Brannagan Jr. '47
William P. Flynn '49
Donald P. Gallagher '49
Philip C. McGovern '49
Arthur B. O'Connor '50
Thomas C. O'Reilly '52
Robert J. Kohl '54
John Dwyer Meehan '55
Joseph W. Schiesl '55
Robert Carolan '57
Joseph A. Mariniello '58
George E. Koleszar, Ph.D. '59
Richard J. Kossack '59
Rev. Robert F. Poandl '59
Anthony Candelmo '61
Kevin P. Doherty '64
John Tyson '65
Fred Caruso '66
Paul F.C. Eng, Ph.D. '69
James P. Stefanis '69
Andrew M. Hudson '74
Bernais McNeil '82
John J. Saueracker H'83
Uzodinma Oguh '96

COMMUNITY

Martha Candelmo
Wife of Anthony '61
Rosie Mae Greggs
Mother of Tyrone '91
Albert J. Jandoli
Father of Ron (Cheryl), SBP Staff
Patrick Kane
Father of Daniel '03 and Jeremy '07
Lenore Amy Simmons
Mother of Jason '05
Vanessa Walton
Mother of Ben '05
Andrea Lorraine Woodson
Sister of Wade '81

A sympathy card has been sent to each bereaved family in the name of the St. Benedict's family — alumni, students, faculty, staff and monks — promising our prayers and a special remembrance at the monks' daily conventual Mass.



1. Ed Ginty '55, Vince Bury '55, Joe Tully '53, James Thompson '55 and Bill Powers '55. 2. Gary Tufaro and **Frank DiGirolamo '45.** 3. **Jonathan Oniyama '20** (SGL), **Khyri Brewer '20** (Transfer Leader) and **Daniel Simoes '20** (Blue Section Leader) with **Bill Leber '48.** 4. **Joe Barber '44** surrounded by the Class of 2020 Group Leaders (L to R): Kevin Calle (White Section Leader), Khyri Brewer (Transfer Leader), Jonathan Oniyama (SGL), Daniel Simoes (Blue Section Leader), Anthony Augustin (Freshman Leader), Ibrahim Stradford (Maroon Section Leader) and Chrisley Alexis (Gray Section Leader). 5. **Wood-May Joseph '19 and Manny Ulysee '19** (center) flanked by (L to R): **Larry Froelich '65, Chris Froelich '72,** Susan Froelich and Jennifer Latimer.

We Are Never Turning Back

When **Joseph Hayden Jr. '62** stopped to grab a coffee at the Boston College student newspaper office in 1965, he had little inkling his life was about to change. Mr. Hayden was in his junior year and was closely following events in Selma, Ala. Days earlier, Alabama state troopers attacked some 600 civil rights demonstrators on the Edmund Pettus Bridge. Closer to home, a local minister from Roxbury, Mass., who had traveled to Selma in a demonstration of solidarity, was beaten to death by segregationists.

The editors of the newspaper, *The Heights*, were discussing the civil rights protests. When someone suggested, "Let's go to Selma," Mr. Hayden didn't hesitate. "Count me in," he responded.

The Gray Bee didn't consider himself an activist, but was outraged by the news footage and reports coming out of Selma. "It was the closest thing I'd seen in the U.S. to Nazis. That's what St. Benedict's Prep does, it instills the desire to take a risk for something worthwhile," he said.

After a training session on nonviolent protest at the local headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Roxbury, Mr. Hayden and *The Heights* group packed into a station wagon and drove 31 hours to Selma. They went directly to the Green Street Baptist Church, joining hundreds of demonstrators who'd heeded the call by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to stand with African Americans whose constitutional rights were denied. "People were pouring in," Mr. Hayden recalled. "There was a tremendous amount of camaraderie and sense that this was something monumental."

“That's what St. Benedict's Prep does, it instills the desire to take a risk for something worthwhile.”

He held no illusions about his role in the historic sequence of events that were about to transpire. "It was their march," Mr. Hayden stressed. "We were there to bear witness and to support the protestors."

On March 19, 1965, Mr. Hayden was among hundreds arrested for picketing the home of Selma's mayor. Detained behind City Hall, he was released the next day. On March 21, he listened as Dr. King addressed some 3,200 marchers before they set off from



Selma to Montgomery march, 1965

Selma to Montgomery. Though the route was protected by armed troops ordered by President Lyndon Johnson, "I was unprepared for the hatred," Mr. Hayden recalled.

Bystanders flew Confederate flags and hurled obscenities. Mr. Hayden remembered how white segregationists would try to intimidate black residents by taking their photograph, a warning that their lives would be in jeopardy after supporters left Selma. "There was this sense of determination among the African Americans of 'We are never turning back.'"

They walked seven miles the first day of the march. According to a plan worked out by civil rights leaders,

only 300 people could march the entire route, so the Boston College group headed back to school. Mr. Hayden wrote a long reflection, "Of Saints And Sins And Selma Town," which was published in *The Heights*. The experience clearly changed him.

He decided to pursue a career in law and finished his first year at Rutgers Law School when an incident of police brutality incited the Newark riots in 1967. Mr. Hayden volunteered on a bail project and the helplessness he witnessed among those jailed convinced him to become a criminal attorney.

Today, Mr. Hayden, a Partner in the law firm that bears his name, Pashman, Stein, Walder, Hayden, is one of New Jersey's top trial attorneys. During his illustrious career, he has served as Deputy Attorney General in the Organized Crime and Special Prosecution Section of the Division of Criminal Justice and successfully defended clients in a number of high-profile cases. The St. Benedict's alumnus is also the 2014 recipient of the Justice William J. Brennan Award from the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey.

He never talked much about Selma until the 2008 Democratic National Convention that nominated Barack Obama for President. Since then, Mr. Hayden has spoken about the experience to journalists, *Boston College Magazine* and St. Benedict's students when he visits The Hive. The alumnus was delighted to hear about the civic action projects Gray Bees are leading today.

"That's the message of St. Benedict's," he said. "If you want to see something done, take a risk. Our coaches taught us that, the faculty and monks modeled it. I'm proud that my school is still involved in it." **B**

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