



# St. Benedict's

## PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# FOREVER BEGINS NOW



SPECIAL 150TH ANNIVERSARY COVERAGE INSIDE

FOREVER  
BENEDICT'S

520

Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School



## Making History

The historic moment was several years in the making. During the 2018 Annual Scholarship Gala and Sesquicentennial celebration on May 10, Headmaster Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 made the public announcement of *Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School*. The \$100 million comprehensive Campaign, the most ambitious and consequential in the School's history, will ensure The Hive's distinctive brand of education serves students forever.

Alumni, parents and friends demonstrated their belief in St. Benedict's and commitment to present and future generations of Gray Bees. During the Gala, guests texted live contributions, which raised more than \$25,000 to secure the \$2 million Sesquicentennial Scholarship Challenge, a special campaign backed by benefactors Mike Caruso '63 and Wayne Hockmeyer. Fr. Edwin also reported that prior to the public announcement, donors committed more than \$60 million to the momentous Campaign.

Further coverage of *Forever Benedict's* and its progress to date begins on page 16.



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# FOREVER BENEDICT'S

Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School

GOAL

# 100 Million



St. Benedict's  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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## GREETINGS

### In Praise of Gratitude

These days, Gray Bees everywhere are feeling especially grateful to St. Benedict's Prep. Loyal alumni have turned out for reunions, events and Sesquicentennial celebrations in record numbers to connect with brothers and the traditions that shaped their lives. Our faculty is grateful for the freedom and encouragement The Hive provides to innovate and improve the curriculum, as well as the philanthropic support that makes it possible. Our K-13 kids, nearly 800 of them, are grateful for a community and School that tends to their minds, hearts and spirits.

This Gray Bee is supremely grateful that in our 150th anniversary year, St. Benedict's is not only thriving, but is stronger than at any time in its history. I'm thankful we're able to reflect on those who came before us, recognize those who brought us to where we are today and plan for a tremendous tomorrow.

*Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School*, the largest fundraising Campaign ever initiated by the School, will pave the way by raising \$100 million to bolster our financial foundation and secure the future of The Hive. Ambitious, yes. As we gathered for the first Convocation of the new academic year on July 30, nearly 7,800 alumni and friends had already generously committed more than \$61 million to *Forever Benedict's*.

We're just getting started and are counting on the participation of everyone in the St. Benedict's community. It is up to all of us to ensure that our ethos, our way of teaching kids, our traditions — all the things Gray Bees say changed the trajectory of their lives — are here forever.

Peace,

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



**SESQUICENTENNIAL  
EVENTS**



**AUGUST 19**  
Monkfest:  
Celebration of  
150 Years

**OCTOBER**  
Hall of Fame  
The Hive honors  
graduates for  
extraordinary athletic  
achievements, as  
well as alumni for  
contributions to their  
chosen fields.

**DECEMBER**  
Mass of Thanksgiving



The celebration of our 150th anniversary continued on June 21 with "Becoming a Benedict's Man," an exhibit at the Newark Public Library. The exhibit, curated by Fr. Augustine Curley, O.S.B. '74 and Matt Dellaguzzo, and on display for an extended run during the summer, tells the story of how St. Benedict's has served the needs of Newark's immigrant and African-American communities. Fr. Augustine led a brief talk on our history during the reception at the library.

## BENEDICTINE VOLUNTEER CORPS CONNECTS CULTURES



Nick Crowley

Newark may not be in a different country, but the culture can seem worlds apart from the Midwest. That's what members of the Benedictine Volunteer Corps (BVC) say when they arrive at St. Benedict's Prep. Soon, however, these young men — many of whom hail from small Midwestern towns — find a warm welcome and embrace the urban, East Coast vibe that defines The Hive.

For the past 15 years, the BVC has provided opportunities for young men to teach, coach and

mentor at St. Benedict's, or to volunteer at other sites around the world. During the year-long experience, they live in Benedictine monasteries, including Newark Abbey. Last year, two BVC volunteers worked at The Hive performing a wide variety of duties. This year, three young men — Augustus Kjolhaug, Lincoln Mullings and Daniel Gillis — are serving at St. Benedict's through the BVC, which accepts graduates of The College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University in Minnesota.

Nick Crowley, Assistant Director of the BVC at Saint John's, places students in their assignments. A former BVC volunteer, he spent two years at St. Benedict's. "What makes it an intriguing and cool experience is getting to know the different cultures at the School," Mr. Crowley said. "While all St. Benedict's students don't face enormous challenges, some do. Through this experience, our volunteers understand the complexities and the real challenges people in our own country go through."

An immersion trip to St. Benedict's can be just as enriching as a BVC assignment in Africa, Europe, the Middle East or Central America, he added. "St. Benedict's really opened up my mind and introduced me to a whole new world. I felt like I created a family there. I love St. Benedict's, and it will always have a place in my heart."

## ICONIC GIFT FOR 150TH ANNIVERSARY



It took nine months and more than 100 hours to create. An iconic rendition of St. Benedict of Nursia was unveiled at the 2018 Annual Scholarship Gala on May 10. The wood carving is a gift to St. Benedict's Prep to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the School. Its talented creator is history teacher Richard Gallerani, who has taught at The Hive for 16 years.

"I 'prayed' my way through the carving process," said Mr. Gallerani, who was inspired to carve the piece after experiencing works by the great Renaissance masters during a trip to Italy. "I wanted the finished piece to be a perpetual prayer for the needs, cares and concerns of all the students, faculty, staff and benefactors — past, present, and future — of St. Benedict's Prep."

The son of Roman aristocrats, St. Benedict became the father of Western monasticism. He wrote *The Rule*, which has guided Benedictines' religious life and ministries for centuries.



## Pomp and Celebration

The Class of 2018 accepted their St. Benedict's Prep diplomas on June 4 in a joyous celebration marked by song, dance and a healthy dose of wisdom. Speakers reminded the 92 graduates of their duty to stay true to the ideals instilled in them at The Hive. Senior Group Leader Liam Reilly '18 was Valedictorian of the class, with Luan Lamas '18 serving as Salutatorian.

"'Whatever hurts my brother hurts me' and 'Whatever helps my brother helps me,'" said Liam in the Farewell Address to graduates. "Remember that motto when you leave today and take it everywhere you go."

To learn more about college plans for the Class of 2018, see story on page 14.



### NOVICE ENTERS NEWARK ABBEY

Newark Abbey has set another place at its table. Br. Mark Martin DiLone entered the community in April and is feeling right at home. "I'm really lucky," he said. "This is a great place to be. The monks are very encouraging in learning to live this life and the work they do in the city is incredible."

Br. Mark entered religious life with another community. He became acquainted with the Benedictines while studying theology at Saint John's University in Minnesota, where he met Br. Simon Clayton, O.S.B. '08 and Br. Asiel Rodriguez, O.S.B., who were visiting from Newark. Their enthusiasm was infectious.

"[Newark Abbey] seemed like a good fit and it was what I was looking for in terms of community life and prayer," Br. Mark said.

The novice hails from Manhattan and holds bachelor's and master's degrees from St. Thomas Aquinas College. He taught history for nine years in the Bronx before exploring a religious vocation.

For Newark Abbey, the addition of a new novice comes on the heels of other hopeful developments. In 2016, Br. Thomas Aquinas O.S.B. '06 professed solemn vows and Brs. Simon and Asiel entered the novitiate, the first time two candidates joined the community at the same time since the 1970s. Br. Simon is currently attending Immaculate Conception Seminary at Seton Hall University and Br. Asiel, having finished his theological studies, teaches religion and ESL at St. Benedict's Prep.



# THE WAY FORWARD

THE HIVE 1973-TODAY



1970s

## Early Believers

The Advisory Board was critical to the success of the new St. Benedict's Prep. Formed in 1972, the group of alumni and friends offered financial help, business expertise and encouragement to the monks of Newark Abbey.



The St. Benedict's Advisory Board, 1974. Left to right: Brian Froelich '64, Paul Thornton '63, George Bukwich '56, William Leahy, Board Chair Roger Cook '61, Abbot Melvin Valvano, O.S.B. '56, John Magovern, Jr. '25, Carl Quick H'79 and Mary Edelen. Advisory Board members not pictured: Rev. (now Rt. Rev.) Bishop Paul Bootkoski '58, Joseph Frisina '52, John McCaskie, Ph.D., '61, William Mealia '56, and Walter Marshall '58.

## Bedrock Education

1976 was a pivotal year for the St. Benedict's curriculum. Following the establishment of Summer Phase (the term that begins in late July and ends in late August) when the School re-opened in 1973, a succession of innovative educational programs was introduced. Fr. Mark Payne, O.S.B. '69 took over the Backpacking Project in 1976, which became a proving ground and capstone for every freshman. The following year, St. Benedict's established its unique brand of student leadership, the Group System, and also introduced the five-day Overnight for new students.



# BACKING ST. BENEDICT'S

A few days before Summer Phase began in 1975, Rick Bailey '78 stood outside 520 High Street waiting for someone to answer the door. He didn't want to be there, but Mr. Bailey's mother insisted he deliver his transcripts and officially transfer from East Orange High School to St. Benedict's Prep.

A man in a T-shirt and Bermuda shorts, Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60, invited the young visitor inside, and by the time the monk showed him the trophy room filled with history and Gray Bee tradition, "I was done. The first step I took into that room, everything about me changed and it was never the same again," said Mr. Bailey, who became The Hive's first Senior Group Leader in 1977.

The life-changing stories of Rick Bailey and hundreds of Gray Bees who found their way to St. Benedict's after the School re-opened in 1973 happened in large part because of a dedicated group of alumni and friends known as the Advisory Board. Formed to support the monks of Newark Abbey in their effort to open a school, members included Bernard Shanley III '21, Adrian "Bud" Foley '39 and John J. Magovern, Jr., former President of Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company, whose success and


reputation instantly bolstered the credibility of the fledgling school. "Successful people in Newark threw their support behind it," said Roger Cook '61, who chaired the Advisory Board. "It was also a lot of old, familiar faces who didn't want to see the place die. They were willing to put their shoulder to the wheel in order to make it happen." In addition to raising financial support, the Advisory Board provided counsel and encouragement to the monks and banded Gray Bees together to back the new St. Benedict's.

"It was important to keep the alumni together to support the School and to maintain tradition," recalled Brian Froelich '64, who also served on the board. "If the Benedict's tradition was important to me and my classmates, I thought it would be important to all the kids who would be going to St. Benedict's."

"The continuum was a big part of the success," Mr. Cook agreed. "St. Benedict's evolved by building a new and innovative way of reaching young men out of the traditions of the School."

Even as a student, Mr. Bailey understood the significance of opportunities like the Backpacking Project, the Group System and Overnight. In fact, when Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 and Fr. Mark Payne, O.S.B. '69 approached him with the idea for the Group System, his first thought was, "this is something very unique and different." His second thought? "What traditions can we start on Day 1 and how far can they go?"

More than 40 years later, the answer is evident. In rites of passage like the Overnight and Backpacking Project, and in daily life, St. Benedict's remains a school dedicated to demanding that students give 100% while showing them how to do just that.

"There's as much of a Benedict's tradition now as there was in my day and my father's day," Mr. Froelich said. "I couldn't be happier for the kids who are having the experience today. They buy in and believe the same way we did." 



## The Rebirth is Real

History teacher and longtime varsity basketball coach Jack Dalton '44 returned to The Hive in 1977. It was an important sign to students, parents, alumni

and friends that the rebirth of St. Benedict's was genuine. Mr. Dalton continued to teach and coach Gray Bees for another 29 years.



## A TURNING POINT

1977 marked an important turning point for St. Benedict's Prep. The graduating class was the first to complete four years at St. Benedict's since the School's 1973 re-opening. Approximately 75% of the Class of 1977 matriculated to college. Today, 98% of St. Benedict's graduates go to college and 87% complete, or are on track to earn, a college degree.



# BUILDING OUR FUTURE

The Hive that Patrick Napoli '87 remembers and the one his son, Jack '19, is currently experiencing has some notable differences. "My class had 46 guys," said Mr. Napoli. "So, it was smaller. I wrestled against Fr. Edwin, who was Headmaster and Assistant Wrestling Coach," he laughed. The campus was more compact when Mr. Napoli arrived in 1985, but St. Benedict's Prep was poised for significant expansion in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s.

"It all depended on our alumni. They supported St. Benedict's getting off the ground in the 70s, and the base of support just kept on growing as more alumni recognized that Benedict's was here to stay," said Paul Thornton '63, who served as Director of Development during this remarkable period of expansion. One alumnus in particular, Robert Brennan '62, gave a transformational gift that built the Henry & Agnes Brennan (HAB) Center and acquired Camp Munsee, which became an integral part of the Backpacking Project.

The 55-mile hike on the Appalachian Trail was a relatively new tradition when Matthew Pinckney '85 was a freshman. "That's when I bought in to Benedict's," recalled Mr. Pinckney, who became Senior Group Leader. "You were put in a scenario where you had to

push yourself mentally and physically."

Some of the biggest investments that solidified the standing of St. Benedict's during this era weren't all brick and mortar. Charles Cawley '58, Founder of MBNA Corporation, became one of The Hive's greatest benefactors by providing the capital that built facilities and upgraded infrastructure, and also lent essential resources. An MBNA team worked on-site for two years to establish best practices for the Business Office and implemented many technical upgrades, according to Michael Scanlan H'97, a former executive with MBNA and now St. Benedict's Assistant Headmaster. "Charlie was very proud of the philanthropy that the company participated in," said Mr. Scanlan. "MBNA had a great record of helping communities in need and St. Benedict's was an extension of that."

Mr. Cawley, who passed away in 2015, took a personal interest in the students and projects he supported. The renovation of the cafeteria into a large, light-filled space in 2001, was a prime example. "His idea was that people were formed by the environment they are in," Mr. Scanlan said. "If you have a really nice school, it's going to elevate students' behavior." After the residential hall, Leahy House, opened in 2000, Mr. Cawley

encouraged and supported a multi-million dollar renovation of the Old Building that brought classrooms and common spaces into the 21st century. Coupled with all of the improvements the alumnus made possible, "It really set us up to be competitive among schools in Newark," Mr. Scanlan said.

With the revitalization, students outside of Newark — many of them legacies whose fathers came of age in the 1980s — also chose St. Benedict's. "It has been such a big part of my life, I didn't want to push Benedict's," said Mr. Napoli, a member of the Board of Trustees. "But Jack fell in love with it. It's been a joy to see him buy into the School."

"I definitely did not push Benedict's," agreed Mr. Pinckney. His son, Elijah '16, asked to enroll at The Hive in 8th grade, a request he wholeheartedly supported because, "I believe in what the School helps develop in young men."

"You can't help but love the fact that there are more Benedict's guys there," Mr. Napoli added, referring to the number of alumni now teaching at The Hive. "The recent K-12 model is also fantastic, because it brings a whole new energy to St. Benedict's. I'm thrilled to be back and to support the School in any way that I can." **B**

## 1980s to 2000

### A Bridge to the Future



repurchased from the City of Newark for \$1 per square foot. A \$5 million gift from Robert Brennan '62 kicked off *A Bridge to the Future*. Proceeds from the Campaign built the sky bridge spanning MLK Boulevard that connected the Old Building with a brand new facility, the Henry & Agnes Brennan Center, known affectionately as "the HAB."

The Hive hit its stride in the 1980s. The struggle to re-open and reshape St. Benedict's Prep was history and the School began to look forward. A tract of land adjacent to the grounds was

### Camp Munsee

The 100-acre property located near the Appalachian Trail in Sussex County was gifted to Newark Abbey and St. Benedict's Prep, thanks to the generosity of Robert Brennan '62.



### The HAB Center is Dedicated

The Henry & Agnes Brennan (HAB) Center was dedicated in 1988. Designed by late Architect Gregory Arner '64, the recreational facility houses a gymnasium, pool and classrooms.







“...the base of support just kept growing as more alumni recognized that Benedict's was here to stay.”



#### Campaign for St. Benedict's Prep

In the early 1990s, a \$10 million Campaign was launched to advance academic excellence. The Campaign established a faculty endowment and built the Radel Library, which opened in 1992.



#### PRESENT FOR STUDENTS 24/7

Before Leahy House was established in 2000 with the help of Charles Cawley '58, St. Benedict's could only accommodate a handful of residential students. Today, Leahy House serves up to 65 kids who are international or local students whose personal circumstances indicate that residential housing is in their best interest.

# CARRYING OUR TRADITION FORWARD

Head of the Prep Division Glenn Cassidy '90 remembers when Gray Bees started reconnecting on Facebook a number of years ago. An alumnus began a group on the social media platform and within a few days the page garnered thousands of posts from St. Benedict's Prep alumni spanning the 1950s to the 2000s. Dr. Cassidy was struck by the sheer volume of responses: "The posts were coming in so fast and furious, it took days to get through them." He also noticed that the shared experiences transcended generations. "When someone from the 60s can talk about

**"I think the future is strong. Times have changed, people have changed, but the fundamentals of the place remain the same. The specialness doesn't go away."**

the same people and experiences that kids know today, that's just incredible," said Dr. Cassidy. "I think that's what makes the place so special."

Tradition has always defined life inside The Hive. Now that the School has reached its Sesquicentennial, fully revitalized with enrollment of nearly 800 students and a K-12 educational model, a central question

remains: How will St. Benedict's carry its tradition forward? The answer can be told in three parts.

A decade ago, vocations at Newark Abbey were at a standstill. Today, there are three novices in various points of formation, as well as a newly-professed monk, Br. Thomas Aquinas, O.S.B. '06. It's a hopeful and tangible sign for the monastic community and its vow to be a stable presence for St. Benedict's and the City of Newark. Moreover, the St. Benedict's community of students, faculty and staff is constantly modeling itself


on Benedictine principles. "We do it more broadly," explained Dr. Cassidy. "We read from *The Rule of St. Benedict* every week, we bring *The Rule* to faculty meetings and talk about it there. We discuss how community

life works and how it should work, so even though students may not see monastic life firsthand, there's a lot of discussion about it and reinforcing of the concepts."

In recent years, the School has also made succession planning a key priority. "There are a lot of people here who can carry on this work," Headmaster Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 told alumni and friends at the

2018 Annual Scholarship Gala. Though Fr. Edwin relied upon a team in every era of the School's transformation, the faces behind the day-to-day operation are more visible today. "Fr. Ed has always been the idea guy, the motivator," said Dr. Cassidy. "But there are also others who have been giants — Fr. Mark, Fr. Albert, Bernie Greene, Hank Cordeiro, Mike DiPiano and others — who made St. Benedict's this special and incredible place. The only difference was they were more in the background and now you have a lot more faces in the forefront."

The cohort of faces writing the next chapter of St. Benedict's history is ready for the challenge. "I think the future is strong," said Dr. Cassidy. "Times have changed, people have changed, but the fundamentals of the place remain the same. The specialness doesn't go away."

The \$100 million Campaign, *Forever Benedict's*, is the final piece that ensures the traditions of excellence, resilience and tending to students' hearts endures for generations. "We call it lightning in a bottle," said Dean of Faculty Michelle Tuorto H'16. "When you hear our alums say, 'Of course St. Benedict's has to be around,' you feel a keen responsibility to make sure that the School is viable. We just have to keep cultivating it." 

## 1970s to 2000s

### Molders of Men

They may have held different titles at different times — Teacher, Coach, Director of Athletics and Dean of Discipline — but Bernard Greene '73, Hank Cordeiro '72, Mike DiPiano H'82 and Rick Jacobs H'90 all played a similar role at St. Benedict's Prep: They were incredible molders of young men. If "The Four Pillars" (Fr. Casimir Finley, O.S.B., Fr. Benedict Tyler, O.S.B. '44, Fr. Theodore Howarth, O.S.B. '41 and Fr. Boniface Treanor, O.S.B. '47) inspired the monastic community to start a new school and serve a diverse urban community, these four men showed them how. In the process, their influence, exacting standards and catch phrases made them legends among generations of Gray Bees.

## Heart of the New St. Benedict's



Bernard Greene '73



Hank Cordeiro '72



Rick Jacobs H'90



Mike DiPiano H'82

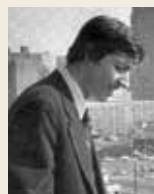
**"These guys were about educating students' hearts and making men."**  
— Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60





“There are a lot of people here who can carry on this work.”

#### The One-man Shop



When the newly opened St. Benedict's Prep needed a Director of Development, Headmaster Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 turned to his classmate Paul Thornton '63 for a

litany of reasons. A graduate of Harvard College, Mr. Thornton returned to The Hive as a faculty member in 1968. "Paul was with us through the closing and the early meetings before we even knew what we were doing," said Fr. Edwin. "He was part of the community"

The new Director of Development knew little of fundraising, but he was a gifted writer and connected with alumni through the stories of his father,

Edward Thornton '39, and through his own accomplishments. "Paul was the number one guy in our class. He was a superior athlete and he went to Harvard at a time when no one thought about going to a non-Catholic college," stressed Fr. Edwin. "Everyone knew who he was. He had these connections that none of us could match."

For the next 13 years (until Candace Bradsher H'99 joined the advancement staff in 1986), Mr. Thornton was a one-man fundraising machine, raising tens of millions to secure the operational finances of the School, fund scholarships and add new facilities. "Paul is the guy who made it work for years and years," Fr. Edwin added. "That's how it happened."



#### "JUST LOVE THE KIDS."

In December of 1972, the monastic community spent three days at a retreat house in the Catskills to make plans for a new school. After much discussion, Br. Dennis Robertson, O.S.B. offered five words that became the guiding principle of the new St. Benedict's Prep: "You just love the kids."



The final installment of Sesquicentennial coverage, "Athletics at 150," will appear in the **FALL EDITION** of this magazine.





## From Theory to Practice

**A look at the people and programs that innovated student-centered education from 1973 to the present**

Call it good timing or divine intervention. In 1972-1973, when the monks of Newark Abbey were discussing plans for a new school ministry, Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60 was completing a master's degree in educational philosophy at Columbia University. "I had no

experience with educational administration, but I knew at least on a theoretical level what education was supposed to be about," said Fr. Albert. The theories included ideas on project-based education, a more dynamic, student-centered approach to learning, which Fr.

### ALUMNI IN EDUCATION (1973 TO PRESENT)



**John Wesley Johnson, Jr., Ph.D., '93**  
*Assistant Professor of History*  
*Saint Peter's University*

John Wesley Johnson, Jr., Ph.D., '93 focuses his scholarship on the political and cultural history of 20th century United States, African-Americans, urban studies and the history of immigration. Dr. Johnson was a Fellow at the Clement A. Price Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience at Rutgers University-Newark and Executive Director of Newark Celebration 350.



**José L. Lopez, Ph.D., '96**  
*Assistant Professor of Physics*  
*Seton Hall University*

Founder and Director of the Laboratory of Electrophysics and Atmospheric Plasmas (LEAP) at Seton Hall University, Jose L. Lopez, Ph.D., '96 is a renowned expert in plasma physics whose research has resulted in better ways to clean air and water. Dr. Lopez has also served as a Correspondent for the Emmy award-winning television series, *Fresh Outlook*.



Albert broached with new Headmaster Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63. "It was right up his alley," recalled Fr. Albert, and shortly after St. Benedict's Prep re-opened in 1973, one of The Hive's many distinctive academic programs, Spring Phase, was born.

There were other curricular innovations, as well. Summer Phase was instituted because "none of us had ever taught kids from the city, other than a few students who came to St. Benedict's before the closing," explained Fr. Albert. "We needed to find out the needs and capabilities of the kids, which gave us a much better idea of what we were dealing with." As time went on, Summer Phase became the testing ground for new classes and programs. Courses in science, the arts and even the crafting of *The Play of St. Benedict's* produced for the Sesquicentennial were introduced and developed during the summer months.

The Newark monks also eliminated the practice of tracking — separating students by academic ability — for reasons practical and philosophical. "The School was so small when we re-opened, that we couldn't split up kids," said Fr. Albert. "But, it also never occurred to us that you would separate the brightest and most motivated kids from the kids who needed the good example." This laid the groundwork for community building, leadership and the motto that guides St. Benedict's to this day, "Whatever hurts my brother, hurts me. Whatever helps my brother, helps me."

While Frs. Edwin and Albert became known as "the Odd Couple" (Fr. Edwin was the big picture thinker and the face of St. Benedict's, Fr. Albert was its brain), the young monks relied on veteran educators: Math Teachers Fr. Theodore Howarth, O.S.B. '41 and Fr. Casimir Finley, O.S.B., as well as Art Teacher Fr. Maynard Nagengast, O.S.B. H'94. "They were on the ground floor of the new School," stressed Fr. Albert. "These were the guys who gave us liftoff."

Others soon joined and St. Benedict's flourished because of their contributions to the intellectual life of the School. History Teacher and Varsity Basketball Coach Jack Dalton '44 returned in 1977, "a sign that the School was alive," added Fr. Albert. Drama Guild Director Patricia

Flynn H'95, who taught an acting class the summer St. Benedict's re-opened, joined the faculty in 1983 and revived the Drama Guild two years later. History Teacher Douglas Sterner, Ph.D., H'01 arrived in 1985 and created "Sterner," the seminal course that prepared many Gray Bees for the academic rigors of college. Keith Corpus served The Hive for 17 years (1989-2006) as Chair of the English Department and Dean of Faculty, and is credited with hiring and mentoring faculty who continue to elevate the curriculum today.

"I always looked toward Keith for the job he did and his leadership as something I wanted to emulate," said current Dean of Faculty Michelle Tuorto H'16. As every benchmark of institutional strength — from finances to admissions and fundraising — advanced in recent years, so has academic innovation. "I look at some of the programs we have now that I never thought possible back in the early to mid-2000s," said Mrs. Tuorto.

The programs include early college credit agreements with New Jersey Institute of Technology, Rutgers University-Newark and Seton Hall University that attract more participants each year, a new learning center to better support students who are struggling and an expanded roster of electives made possible by the block schedule. "During the school year, kids can literally take a ton of electives once they get to junior and senior year," said Mrs. Tuorto. "I see that as more opportunity to explore and figure out what they like. It's a little less risky to find out about a subject you think you might be interested in during high school than college."

Even as the curriculum has evolved for 21st century learning, the constant has been designing academic offerings around the needs and aspirations of students. Mrs. Tuorto points to the current math curriculum as a prime example. "It used to be if you were a freshman, you went into Algebra," she said. "Freshmen now can go into Math 1, Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1A, Algebra 1B, Advanced Algebra or Geometry. So that's serving the individual a little better because you can put a kid in a fit that's good for him and then push him as far as he can go." **B**



**Kyle Dargan '98**  
*Associate Professor of American Literature*  
*American University*  
Award-winning poet Kyle G. Dargan '98 is Founding Editor of *Post No Ills*, an arts commentary venue, and was Managing Editor of *Callaloo*, a forum on the African Diaspora. Mr. Dargan is also Director of Creative Writing at American University, and has led high school students in poetry readings at the Library of Congress and the White House.



**Marc Onion '89**  
*Dean of Students*  
*The Peddie School*  
After graduating from Boston College, Marc Onion '89 returned to The Hive, teaching here for 14 years. During that time, he assisted the late Fr. Mark Payne, O.S.B. '69 with the Backpacking Project. Mr. Onion earned a master's degree from New York University, and has worked at The Peddie School since 2007, serving as an English Teacher and Assistant Dean prior to his current appointment.



Khalid Salaam '19 and Kris St. Louis '19 program robotic cars in Fundamentals of Engineering.

## Stepping up STEM

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) has taken a quantum leap at The Hive. New courses in engineering and coding, and the growth of early college credit programs — bolstered by dedicated philanthropic support — have made greater academic possibilities available to Gray Bees.

### GRAY BEES ENGINEER IT

Programming robotic cars, designing a compact cooking kit for the Backpacking Project and the construction and testing of balsa

wood towers were a few of the challenges Prep Division students encountered in Fundamentals of Engineering, a STEM course introduced in 2017-2018. The elective is an extension of the popular class, Introduction to Engineering, developed by Earth Science Teacher Jon Marlow in 2012. “I wanted to go more in-depth so we could really gear it toward guys looking at engineering as a course of study,” explained Mr. Marlow. The goal, he noted, is to provide students with opportunities to apply mathematical and scientific concepts, while developing

## ALUMNI IN EDUCATION (1973 TO PRESENT)



**Marc Riley '79**  
*History Teacher*  
*St. Benedict's Prep*

Three decades ago, the old neighborhood drew Marc Riley '79 home to St. Benedict's. Today, Mr. Riley — who grew up just two blocks from Newark Abbey — is a beloved History Teacher who also shares his love of karate with Gray Bees through the School's martial arts club. Several years ago, The Hive recognized his commitment with its Distinguished Monk/Teacher Award.



**Thomas N. Hollins, Jr., Ed.D., '87**  
*Vice President of Student Affairs*  
*J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College*  
Thomas N. Hollins, Jr., Ed.D., '87 assists in shaping policy at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, the third largest of Virginia's 23 community colleges. Dr. Hollins is also the college's Title IX coordinator and serves on the Foundation Board of Directors. A graduate of The College of New Jersey, he holds a master's from Montclair State University and a doctorate from Florida State University.



creativity and teamwork, to find practical solutions to a variety of design challenges.

Mr. Marlow taught the elective to juniors and seniors during fall term and Math Teacher Elliott McFarland '12 led the winter term class. Interest in the new course was especially strong and the first cohort is ready to tackle their next STEM challenge. "They worked really well together," Mr. Marlow said. "After the first couple of projects, I would lay out the parameters of the challenge and let them go. It became less me, and more them as the class went on."

Fundamentals of Engineering will be elevated further in 2018-2019, thanks to a \$50,000 gift from John J. Healey, Ph.D., '58, which is earmarked for a number of STEM initiatives. "We can take the challenges to greater depth," said Mr. Marlow, noting the program will be enhanced with new laptops and licensed software utilized by professional engineers. He also envisions expanded programming in STEM, whether it's a Robotics Club or introducing engineering to the Middle Division.

### CREATING, NOT CONSUMING, TECHNOLOGY

The cohort of Gray Bees who finished Fundamentals of Engineering can look forward to learning the programming language Python and developing apps in a new computer coding class this fall. Director of Technology Dexter Lopina '98 pushed for the elective that will be offered to qualified juniors and seniors.

"Coding opens up the door to everything right now," he said. "With a little bit of knowledge and some creativity, there are so many things our guys can code to create an app and help other people out." The coding class will use a web-based curriculum, as well as teacher tools and resources that were also made possible through the generosity of Dr. Healey's gift. Benedictine Volunteer Corps member Augustus Kjolhaug, who began his year of service to the School in July, will proctor the course.

While students today are consummate consumers of technology,

writing code to make technology do what you want is another story. "Coding is very unforgiving. If you are not 100% right, it's not going to work," Mr. Lopina explained. In spite of the difficulty and challenge Gray Bees will experience while learning to code, he also sees payoffs such as gratification from a job well done and the sense of accomplishment that comes from building a simple app that works. "Coding teaches guys that you have to be very meticulous, and that carries over to everything," Mr. Lopina added. "You can take that meticulous mindset on to logic, organization and even pre-planning and outlining how a project is going to work before you start."

### EARNING STEM COLLEGE CREDIT

The growth of early college programs in recent years has also exposed more Gray Bees to STEM opportunities. Last year, New Jersey Institute of Technology joined the roster of early college options that include Rutgers University-Newark and Project Acceleration, a concurrent enrollment program with Seton Hall University. Jacob Amaro '19, who hopes to be a physician, felt a great sense of pride and accomplishment after completing the Project Acceleration course in meteorology, and earning three college credits from Seton Hall. "I spent hours on my research paper and presentation," he said. "It helped me understand what it takes to do college-level work."

Others studied computer science at Rutgers-Newark, and for the first time in recent years, qualified seniors took courses in calculus and engineering at NJIT. Even though the three institutions of higher education offer courses to St. Benedict's at a reduced rate, donors often make up the difference. The recent gift from Dr. Healey was instrumental in helping a number of Gray Bees enroll in STEM classes at area universities. "It's very exciting that we have this option for our guys," said Dean of Faculty Michelle Tuorto H'16, noting that gifts of all sizes can go a long way toward enhancing STEM programs at The Hive. "We don't want money to be an impediment for any of our students to take advantage of these opportunities." **B**



**Jermaine Monk, Ph.D., '00**

*Assistant Professor of Social Work  
Lehman College, CUNY*

Jermaine Monk, Ph.D., '00 focuses his research on improving outcomes for African American and Latino men. The author of numerous studies, Mr. Monk shines a light on factors such as college matriculation and substance abuse that can make or break the futures of at-risk youths. A native of Newark, he also carves out time to mentor student researchers through the McNair Scholars Program at Bloomfield College.



**Daniel Kane '03**

*Latin Teacher  
Tottenville High School*

As a student at Oberlin College, Daniel P. Kane '03 majored in Latin and ancient Greek — but never anticipated there'd be high demand for Latin teachers. Today, he's entering his 12th year teaching at Tottenville High School, where he's also an adviser to student activities including the National Junior Classical League.



# The Road To and Through COLLEGE

Dean of Seniors and College Placement Didier Jean-Baptiste '86 knows the peer-reviewed literature on college attainment and the stories that accompany them all too well. A longitudinal study published in 2015 by the U.S. Department of Education, for instance, found that low-income students with top math scores have the same chance of graduating with a bachelor's degree (41%) as high-income students with middling scores. College affordability, along with other factors, can play a big role in college completion rates, according to Mr. Jean-Baptiste. Often, a generous scholarship and financial aid package still requires a student to come up with an annual sum that far outpaces the family's resources. "First year, maybe the student

slogs through it, but he finishes with some money owed," explained Mr. Jean-Baptiste. "The next semester, he still owes the money, but can't register for classes, and before you know it, the student has dropped out of college."

The college guidance process at The Hive has always taken the long view by focusing on the road to and through college. According to Mr. Jean-Baptiste, that means matching students with a best-fit college where they will be prepared for academic success and also financially supported so they have the best shot at completing a degree. "We try to do as much as we can so that kids don't end up at a school that they have to leave because of finances," he said.



## COLLEGE PLACEMENT RAMPS UP

When St. Benedict's Prep re-opened in 1973, college prep wasn't the top priority. "We wanted kids to be able to get into college, but it was not our first goal when we started. It was much more about making them competent human beings," said Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60. "Very quickly, though, it appeared that the kids coming here had ambition and had their eyes set on something further."

The School hired a college guidance counselor and also took Gray Bees to visit Ivy League and other elite schools. When the Grossman Family Foundation established an endowed fund in 2013, however, College Placement was able to significantly expand its services, thanks to the endowment's assistance.

In 2018, the number of colleges and universities that visited The Hive reached 100 for the second year in a row. College Placement also organized approximately 20 trips to a range of colleges and universities that included Boston College and Swarthmore College, but also public and private schools in New Jersey. "It's fairer," said Mr. Jean-Baptiste. "Some guys may have a harder time being exposed to their choices than guys at the top of the class. I'm really happy that we're able to give more kids the chance to go and visit colleges."

College Placement also worked closely with seniors to ensure they take advantage of opportunities like "fly-in programs," where a college or university will underwrite travel costs in order to attract underserved high school students. "More and more selective colleges are measuring student interest before they accept you," explained Mr. Jean-Baptiste. "They want to see that you've done your research, and so if our guys don't take advantage of these opportunities, they're hurting themselves. We have to make sure that we pump that information out."


## A TEAM EFFORT

Funding from the Grossman Family Foundation has also impacted the way St. Benedict's works with college-bound seniors. From identifying schools to navigating a highly complex financial aid process, Gray Bees are benefiting from more individualized attention. Senior History Teacher Susanne Mueller, who began her career at The Hive volunteering in College Placement, devotes free periods and after-school hours counseling seniors. Jacob Drill, who volunteered three days a week last year, is now a full-time College Placement Counselor. "You need the manpower to plan," said Mr. Jean-Baptiste. "We've done a better job of finding the right fit college for each kid."

He also pointed out the contributions of many dedicated faculty and administration members. Director of Planned Giving Paul Thornton '63 conducts mock interviews, Managing Editor of Advancement Publications Noreen Connolly H'11 reviews student essays and Assistant Headmaster Michael Scanlan H'97 accompanies Gray Bees on college visits. It all adds up to the result that sets St.

Benedict's apart: Nearly 100% of graduates matriculate to college each year and graduate college, or are on track to graduate at a much higher rate (87%) than national norms.

Mr. Jean-Baptiste believes the reasons for the exceptional college attainment rate for St. Benedict's graduates is twofold. Gray Bees are resilient and highly prepared for higher education, but they've also chosen their schools wisely. "Fortunately, our guys go and do well," he said. "So colleges want more Benedict's guys."

This fall, the Class of 2018 will be represented at a wide range of colleges and universities including Boston College, St. John's University, George Mason University, Morehouse College, Rutgers University, The College of New Jersey, NJIT and the United States Naval Academy (USNA). 



Frederick Smith, Esq., '73

## FROM THE HIVE TO A RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

In 1977, Frederick T. Smith, Esq., '73 became the first African American in Newark and the seventh nationwide to receive a Rhodes Scholarship. The journey to the prestigious scholarship at Oxford University began at The Hive, when Mr. Smith was among the early group of African American students who attended St. Benedict's Prep prior to its closing in 1972. He went on to Harvard College, and later, Harvard Law School. Mr. Smith achieved another distinction when he became the first African American Partner at the venerable Newark law firm, McCarter & English, LLP. The Gray Bee also served as an Adjunct Professor at Seton Hall University School of Law and was a Presiding Judge for employee disciplinary hearings for Essex County. Mr. Smith passed away in 2005.

# 2018 Annual Scholarship Gala

It is the most ambitious fundraising initiative in St. Benedict's Prep history and the most important. The public announcement of *Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School* took place in a packed Dalton Gymnasium at the 2018 Annual Scholarship Gala on May 10.

"We will raise \$100 million, with \$50 million dedicated to our Annual Fund to ensure our daily operations continue," Headmaster Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63 told the nearly 350 alumni and friends gathered. "The other \$50 million will be earmarked to grow our endowment. And, thanks to those who have already participated, I am pleased to report that we have surpassed more than \$60 million in gifts and pledges from donors throughout the country."

Raising record amounts for the Annual Fund and endowment is essential for The Hive to continue to serve students today, tomorrow and forever. There are a variety of ways for longtime benefactors and first time donors to participate.

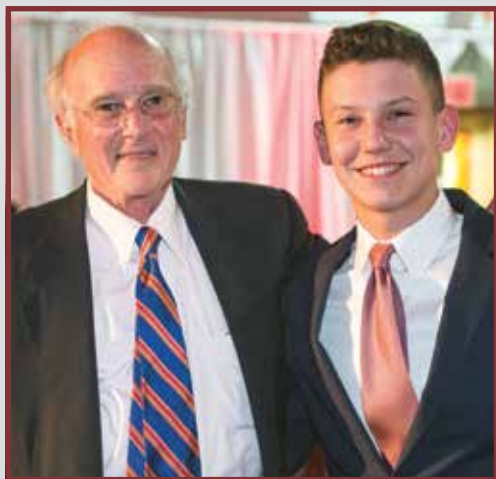


Unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund support the School's yearly operating budget and help bridge the gap between the cost of a Benedict's education and our students' ability to afford it. Though the current tuition charged for the Prep Division is \$13,300, the true cost of educating Gray Bees is nearly \$18,000 per student. Annual Fund donors also have the option of directing their gifts to a program that is most meaningful to them, such as the arts, athletics, Backpacking Project, Counseling Center, faculty support or technology.

Gifts for the endowment will strengthen the general endowment, endowed scholarships, the Vox Institute, a multi-faceted program that shares St. Benedict's model programs with schools throughout the country, program endowments and the capital fund, which will enhance the physical plant. <sup>®</sup>

**Make your gift today!**  
**Visit [www.sbp.org/forever](http://www.sbp.org/forever).**

## 2018 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GALA HONOREES



Honoree Steven Grossman of the Grossman Family Foundation with Jack Napoli '19.



Lata Reddy, Senior Vice President of Diversity Inclusion & Impact, accepts the award on behalf of honoree Prudential Financial. She is pictured with Troi Slade, an 8th grader in the Middle Division.



Honoree Ivan Lamourt, Psy.D., '82, Director of Counseling, with Devionne Johnson '18.





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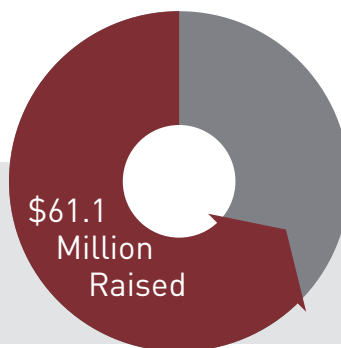


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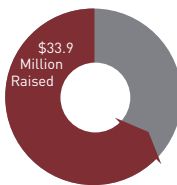
**FOREVER  
BENEDICT'S**  
*The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School*

*As of June 2018*

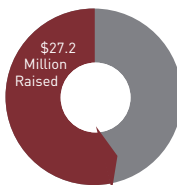
**OVERALL GOAL**  
\$100 Million



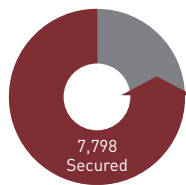
**ANNUAL FUND  
GOAL**  
\$50 Million



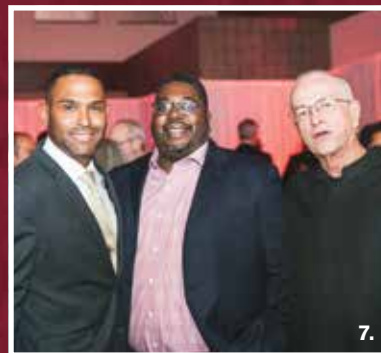
**ENDOWMENT  
GOAL**  
\$50 Million



**DONOR  
GOAL**  
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1. & 2. Carlos Acosta '18 (left) and Jerry Miraval '18 (right) served as emcees. 3. Nearly 350 alumni and friends attended the 2018 Annual Scholarship Gala. 4. Pat Napoli '87, Charles Villano '60 and Andrew D'Arcy '89. 5. Emma González, a Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School senior at the time of the mass shooting in Parkland, Fla., attended the Gala. The survivor-turned-activist met with St. Benedict's students during the day. 6. Erick Badillo '19, Jesus Paulino '19, Jacob Amaro '19 and David Rahaman '19. 7. Justo Rosario '92, Sharif Muhammad '92 and Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60. 8. U.S.N.A. Midshipmen took a break from getting freshmen prepared for the Backpacking Project to attend the Gala. 9. Mario King '18 and Michael Amankwaah '18.

# Lead With Passion

**Times change, but one thing remains constant at St. Benedict's Prep: the passion Gray Bees have for the School and its students. These four alumni graduated decades apart, yet they share the same abiding commitment to ensuring the success of *Forever Benedict's*.**

## PRIDE RUNS DEEP

As a young kid, **Bill Ehrhardt '62** wanted to be a Gray Bee, just like his father, William Ehrhardt '31. That St. Benedict's pride carried him through the long daily commute on public transportation from his home in Springfield to Newark. A basketball and baseball player at The Hive, he often arrived home at 8 p.m. "It taught me important lessons," said Mr. Ehrhardt, who went on to attend the University of Notre Dame. "I'll never forget that Benedict's gave me my start."

After a four-decade career at Deloitte, Mr. Ehrhardt sought a way to step up his annual giving to The Hive. When he reached 70 ½, the longtime contributor directed a generous portion of the mandatory distribution from his Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to the School. The retired CPA values the tax savings his gift provides, and more importantly, the opportunities it creates for today's Gray Bees.

A Class Agent for St. Benedict's for many years, Mr. Ehrhardt believes strongly in the School's mission. "When you give to Benedict's, you can see your money making a difference," he explained. "The School has done what no other city school has been able to do. That's at the heart of why I give."

## ENGINEERING FUTURES

**John J. Healey, Ph.D., '58** is paving a new pathway for Gray Bees with an aptitude for engineering. A loyal St. Benedict's Prep contributor for decades, the seasoned engineer increased his support through a generous cash gift, as well as a planned gift from his estate, after experiencing Convocation several years ago.

Dr. Healey is a strong believer in making STEM opportunities more accessible to inner city kids. Through the Healey STEM Fund, St. Benedict's has upgraded technology and instituted new advanced STEM classes (see page 12). "The potential of our students needs to be accessed in science and engineering for our country to be competitive," explained Dr. Healey, Director *Emeritus* of Applied Research Associates, Inc.

In partnership with Emmanuel Yamoah '93, Dr. Healey has also established an engineering scholarship at Rutgers University for inner city students, with a preference for St. Benedict's graduates. "It goes back to this: Benedict's Hates a Quitter," he said. "These kids are going to be successful if they get the support."

1962



Bill Ehrhardt '62

1958



John J. Healey, Ph.D., '58





1993

Naml Lewis '93

### CONNECTIONS COUNT

**Naml Lewis '93** is spreading the word: St. Benedict's Prep transforms lives. The enthusiastic contributor to *Forever Benedict's* has introduced colleagues in the finance field to The Hive and also mentors current students. "Education is key to unlocking the door to a different world for these kids," explained Mr. Lewis, Executive Director of Morgan Stanley's Institutional Equities Division. "St. Benedict's can completely change the trajectory of their lives."

Mr. Lewis was raised in Newark by his grandmother after his parents passed away. While attending St. Benedict's, he encountered friends who lacked stable, loving homes. "When kids are in that environment, they develop a sense of hopelessness," he noted. Today, Mr. Lewis introduces Gray Bees to professional role models by hosting them at Morgan Stanley. He added, "You try to convey that they can work their way out. They see people who look like them and understand that they can have that level of success."

He's also been instrumental in introducing the School to potential contributors. "My plan is to continue telling the St. Benedict's story," Mr. Lewis said. "It really is a fantastic story."




2008

Ahmad Ismail '08

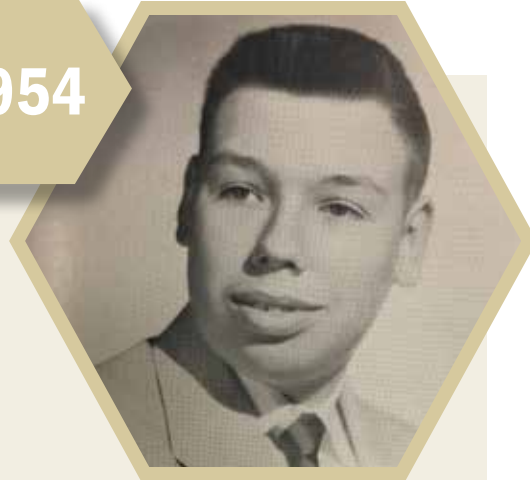
### ELEVATOR PITCH

A mentor once told **Ahmad Ismail '08**, "When you reach the top, be sure to send the elevator back down." Vice President with SMBC Nikko Securities America, Inc., Mr. Ismail is doing just that through a generous multi-year pledge to St. Benedict's Prep.

Mr. Ismail first met his mentor, Ian Fuller, through a financial literacy course Mr. Fuller offered to St. Benedict's students on Saturdays. The course featured a stock market competition providing the winner with an internship at Merrill Lynch. Mr. Ismail won. Since then, the trajectory of his career has been swift, but his path to Wall Street has always circled back to St. Benedict's. A residential student at The Hive, he also called the School home while on breaks from Wesleyan University to interview for jobs in the Newark area.

Today, the successful professional is committed to sending the elevator back down. "Some of the kids think I'm special," Mr. Ismail said of current students. "I try to get them to understand that they're special, too. The mere presence of alumni coming back to the School reinforces what the faculty and Fr. Ed say every day: 'Everybody's got your back.'" 

1954



Peter Clark '54

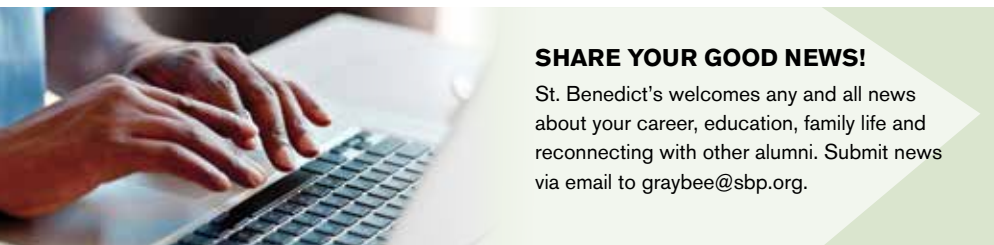
### LEAVING A LEGACY

St. Benedict's Prep held a special place in the heart of the late **Peter Clark '54** — so special, in fact, that Mr. Clark remembered The Hive in his will. The generous nearly \$1.4 million bequest is the largest single estate gift from a St. Benedict's alumnus.

A graduate of the University of Maryland, Mr. Clark enjoyed a long career with the Piscataway public school system, retiring as a guidance counselor. The longtime Cranford resident was a theater aficionado and a member of the Cranford Dramatic Club who enjoyed attending performances at the Metropolitan Opera. Mr. Clark passed away in 2016.

Paul Thornton '63, Director of Planned Giving/Associate Headmaster, said, "We know that Peter was very enthusiastic about the performing arts, but in his own modest way, he placed no restrictions on his gift. Like many men of his era, he was most grateful for what his monk and lay teachers did for him, and for others."

Those lessons formed a guiding principle that shaped Mr. Clark's career, added Michael Fazio, Chief Advancement Officer. "Peter dedicated his career to helping kids fulfill their potential," Mr. Fazio said. "Through this generous gift his legacy will live on, benefiting Gray Bees for generations to come." To learn more about including St. Benedict's in your estate plan, visit [www.sbp.org/plannedgiving](http://www.sbp.org/plannedgiving).



### 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](mailto:graybee@sbp.org).

### 1962

**Ed McGlynn** is spending time enjoying his two grandsons, Theo, 6, and Desmond, 4.

### 1963

Sanda and **Robert Schramm** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June.

**Paul Thornton** and his wife, Katharine, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 1. Paul, Director of Planned Giving/Associate Headmaster at The Hive, has contributed a chapter to *Responding to the Call for Educational Justice: Catholic-Led Initiatives in Urban Education*, edited by L. Mickey Fenzel. Paul's chapter, Transforming the Mission at St. Benedict's Prep in Newark, briefly recounts the monks' renewed commitment to serving young men in Newark and describes the principal elements that distinguish St. Benedict's — community, student leadership and counseling. The book will be published by December.

### 1964

**G. Patrick Murray** retired from teaching at Valley Forge Military College after 39 years. He was named an honorary alumnus after his retirement.

**Robert Wharton** is awaiting the birth of his first grandchild.

### 1968

**Charlie Truncale** reports that he and his wife, Sheila, have been living in Jacksonville, Fla., for over 30 years. After St. Benedict's, Charlie graduated from Rutgers University with a B.A. in economics and graduated in 1978 from Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., with a law degree.

Charlie was employed by the United States Department of Justice and practiced as a Federal Prosecutor for six years in Montgomery, Ala., and another 17 years in Jacksonville and Tampa, Fla. Charlie served as a Criminal Division Chief and prosecuted complex fraud and large-scale drug importation and distribution cases throughout his Department of Justice career. In 2004, Charlie left the Department and began his own law practice in Jacksonville, where he concentrates on federal and state criminal defense and civil fraud cases. He practices law throughout Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

Charlie spent decades after St. Benedict's training wrestlers and competing in karate tournaments as his primary hobbies. His son, Chase, became a very accomplished high school and Olympic-style wrestler in Florida, and his daughter, Christie, trained with Charlie in karate.

Charlie incorporated, obtained federal tax-exempt

status and served as a Board Director for the Florida Amateur Wrestling Association, which has trained over 5,000 young wrestlers on a yearly basis for decades and has had numerous national champions to show for it. He and his wife intend to move to Stuart, Fla., within the next year to be near their first grandchild — a boy — who is scheduled to arrive in August. Charlie joked about a training regimen for the youngster as soon as the future wrestler is able to walk. Intense double daily workouts will be delayed until the boy is about 2, and no weight cutting will

be permitted until he is 4. Karate training will begin at age 3.

Charlie and Sheila recently attended the 50th reunion of the St. Benedict's Class of 1968 (see opposite page). He reports that it was fantastic to be with his classmates and wonderful that everyone is doing such great things with their lives. Charlie said the best memory of the reunion was to observe and hear the newest graduates revel together and sing beautiful praises to the Lord upon receipt of their diplomas. The new graduates demonstrated that the monks and faculty of St. Benedict's are the greatest teachers and mentors of young men in history.

### 1970

**Michael Argentieri** and Beth Rubin enjoyed a commitment ceremony on June 2.

**Timothy Macken** was elected President of the Caliendo Winter Golf Tour. The tour is the oldest winter golf league in the nation and has 160 members. Tim also is a New Jersey State Golf Association Official. He played proudly on the St. Benedict's golf team for four years.

### 1972

Sharon and **William Brown** received the Nelson Mandela Freedom Award from the Greater Newark Conservancy at its "Making Our City Bloom" gala.

### 1982

**Daniel Raymond** will be celebrating 30 years as a Performing Musician at Walt Disney World. His Disney career includes serving as a Show Designer, assisting in auditions and percussion performances.



### 1983

Celebrating their 35th reunion at a New York Yankees game are, from left, top row: **Nick Belmonte** and **Phil Whyte**. Second row: **Marvin Bazemore**, **Steve Wright**, **Eric Jackson** and **Fletcher Neal**. Third row: **Kenny Moody**, **Jonathan Nelson** and **Carlton Campbell**. Fourth row: **Stan Huff**, **Dave Daniels**, **Fred Davis** and **Alex McClendon**.



**1987**



**Bill Engel H'87** was recognized with a Leading Change Award from New Jersey SEEDS, a nonprofit that provides educational access to high-achieving, low-income students. Bill is a Partner at Engel & Devlin, P.C. He is pictured, second from right, with, from left, Theo Lubke, Chair of the New Jersey SEEDS Board of Trustees, Patrick Rametti, a SEEDS graduate from 2000 who introduced Bill, and John F. Castano,

Executive Director of New Jersey SEEDS.

**1991**



**Michael Weekes** and his son, Mycah, met up with Drama Guild Director Pat Flynn H'95, when she was at the Benedictine conference in Lisle, Ill. in June. Pat wrote that Michael, a former Drama Guild member, is now a production manager for a company that does trade shows all over the country.

**1993**

Lauren and **John Johnson, Jr.** are the proud parents of twins, Avery Rene and Benjamin Joseph.

**2003**

**Robert Innis** received his M.B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh's Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business. His focus was on marketing and strategy.

**2006**

**Shane Goda** completed medical school at Georgetown University School of Medicine and will be starting a residency program in pediatrics at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.



St. Benedict's alumni visited London to celebrate the birthday of **Cameron Jones '06: Louis Ramos '07, Marlon Younge '04, Joseph Edwards '04 and Allan Bartow '04.**

**2014**



**Isaac Tucker-Rasbury** graduated from Pomona

College with a B.A. in economics and Africana studies.

#### NOTE TO ALUMNI:

Have you served in the military? Would you please supply your name, branch of service, rank, years of service and date you retired? We would love to track our alumni who have served our country. Please email information to [graybee@sbp.org](mailto:graybee@sbp.org). We thank you for your service.



## 50th Reunion for the Class of 1968

The Class of 1968 gathered for their reunion weekend June 1–3. The group met at Redd's Biergarten in Newark, followed by dinner the following evening at Iberia Peninsula, also in Newark. Their celebration concluded after being feted during the weekend's Commencement exercises.



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1. Forty-three members of the Class of 1968 and 19 spouses/significant others celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation at Iberia Peninsula in Newark on June 2. 2. Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60 and Stephen Grochmal. 3. Mike Bercik, M.D., Ray Talucci, M.D., Rick Mackessy, M.D., Bill Parell, M.D., Stephen Grochmal, M.D., Frank Prasnal, M.D. and Joe Candio, M.D. 4. Class of '68 gathered at Redd's Biergarten in Newark on June 1. 5. Joe Moore and Rick Miceli, Esq. 6. Joe Frankoski, Pete Landers and Bob Tankoos.

# INMEMORIAM

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

## ALUMNI

Dr. John Donahue '45  
William J. Hammell '46  
William T. Hensler, Sr. '47  
Rev. Benet Caffrey, O.S.B. '49  
Garrett J. O'Connor '49  
Theodore Cullen '50  
John R. Davies '50  
Benedict A. Lee '51

C. Joseph Frisina '52  
William J. Dowd '54  
J. Michael McHugh '54  
Nicholas Briante '55  
Thomas O. Kelly '55  
Philip M. Lilley '55  
George A. Bukwich '56  
William G. Neafsey '59  
Clay Ogorzaly '63

Francis X. Maginnis '65  
Steven C. Boyd '67  
Wayne S. Heinrichs '67  
Alan Rhodes, Jr. '67  
Frank Murphy H'97

## COMMUNITY

George Butwell  
Father/In-Law of Sara Gallo  
& Mario, Faculty

Beverly A. Clarke  
Wife of Raymond '53  
Toyin Corprew  
Mother of Daryl '17  
Miriam Dalton  
Mother/In-Law of  
Judy Leahy & Tom '77  
Wilbur J. Dempsey  
Former Teacher at St.  
Benedict's

Mamie L. Flounoy  
Mother of Michael '93  
Alfred W. Helwig III, M.D., '70  
Brother of Greg '71, Noel '73  
Richard Sutton  
Father of Alimophii '91,  
Sadikifu '92, Kabiata '95 and  
Grandfather to Amari Day '16

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.

## Events

### BACK TO THE BREAKERS

More than 150 Gray Bees who graduated 50 years ago or more, gathered for the Senior Alumni Luncheon on June 8 at the Breakers in Spring Lake, N.J. The annual event, in its 31st year, featured the State of the School from **Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63**, followed by a

Q&A session. **Edward Bien '39** was the oldest alumnus at the event, just ahead of **Jack Mooney '40**. **Patrick Dunphy '57** travelled from California for the gathering while **Dr. Robert Stanley '55** made the journey up from Alabama. The Class of 1956 had the most attendees, 19, just one more than the Class of 1963.



**1. Peter Jandrisevitz '55** with senior leaders. **2. Headmaster Fr. Edwin D. Leahy, O.S.B. '63** addressed the gathering with the new carving of St. Benedict by History Teacher Richard Gallerani at his side. **3. Joseph Alexander '46 and William Mealia '56.** **4. Members of the Class of 1964, seated left to right, Kevin Moore, Mike Galloway, Rich Gerber and Art San Filippo.** Standing, left to right, **Mike Bertelli, Bill Columbo, Pat Pepe, Jim Degnen and Art Sholz.** Mr. Sholz noted that "Kevin Moore came from Virginia, while Rich Gerber came from Connecticut, making this our largest turnout since we started attending four years ago." **5. Juan Garcia '18, Daron Reyes '18, Juan Perez '18, Elijah Allen-Smith '18, Alejandro Oliveira '18 and Michael Melendez '18.** **6. John Huss '81 and Michael McDonnell '53.** **7. Jack Duhig '55, Dr. Bob Stanley '55 and Vince Bury '55.** **8. Tom Quinn '62 and Patricia and Joe Tully '53.** **9. Bob Brennan '62, Headmaster Fr. Edwin D. Leahy, O.S.B. '63 and Don Haneke '63.**



## LATE GRAY BEE SHEDS LIGHT ON LEGENDARY STORY

Philip Lilley '55 passed away on May 25. The Gray Bee attended Boston College and Seton Hall University after graduating from St. Benedict's Prep and built a career that spanned more than 30 years as a salesman and manager in the oil and gas industry. Mr. Lilley married the late Pauline Lilley in 1970 and had two sons, Michael and Andrew.

"My dad's best friend at St. Benedict's was a young man named Frank Maltby, who also graduated in the class of 1955," wrote Andrew in a note to the School. "Unfortunately, Frank died in a military plane crash in the late 1950s off the coast of Hawaii. Frank's untimely passing affected dad deeply. I hope he is reunited with Frank, my mom and all the others we lost over the years."

Later in life, Mr. Lilley starred in the documentary film, *I'll Knock a Homer for You*, which was directed and produced by Andrew. The film recounts the 1926 World Series when Babe Ruth hit a home run for an ailing boy in New Jersey named Johnny Sylvester. Johnny was also Mr. Lilley's uncle and the two were very close. Mr. Lilley was a key figure in the film because of his relationship with Johnny and his unique perspective on the legendary story.

*I'll Knock a Homer for You* will air on PBS stations until February 2019. Check your local listings or stream the documentary at [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org).



## GRAY BEE CAREER NETWORK TALKS CRYPTOCURRENCY

Nearly 30 alumni and friends attended a Gray Bee Career Network event about cryptocurrency, on June 14 at Bross Law in Newark. **Roosevelt Donat '03** hosted the event and fellow alumnus, **Chris Nadarajah '04**, a Blockchain expert, led a discussion on the rise of digital currency. The cryptocurrency talk was the second networking event intended to engage alumni in professional topics and an opportune time to announce that *Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School* is accepting gifts of cryptocurrency like Bitcoin and Ethereum. Visit [www.sbp.org/crypto](http://www.sbp.org/crypto).

Future Gray Bee Career Network Talks are in the works for 2018-2019. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for updates.



## CLASS OF 2008 GATHERS FOR REUNION

Forty-two guys showed up to Newark's Taste Venue for the evening reception to celebrate their 10th reunion. There was also strong attendance at an afternoon gathering at the School for basketball, drinks and food.

Front row (L-R): **Brian Buckner, Taijher Cosby, Cornelius Boggs, Laquan Miller, Cody Petit-Frere and Giovanni Bonilla.**

Second row, standing: **Dan Sheehan, Kwasi Agyeman, Mike Zevallos, Brent Sangiuliano, Evan Hauck, John DeCecco, Tashawn Dashiell, Marty Williams, Derek Torres and Br. Simon Peter Clayton, O.S.B.**

Third row, standing: **Richard Ministro, Giovanni DePaula, Armand Almeida, Kevin Parker, Brian Konchalski, Kevin Hall, Eugene Okparaake, Olaniyi Solebo and Joao Simoes.**

Back row, standing: **Saad Saeed Khan, Luis Cruz, Tom Holt, Justin Morant, Luis Mancebo, Michael Morrison and Ancin White.**

# The World Needs More Gray Bees



*When Ivan Lamourt, Psy.D., '82 was awarded the Medal of St. Benedict's at the 2018 Annual Scholarship Gala on May 10, he congratulated his fellow honorees, Steven M. Grossman of the Grossman Family Foundation, and Prudential Financial, and then delivered inspiring words about why the world needs more Gray Bees. A portion of Dr. Lamourt's speech is excerpted below:*

We live in difficult times. Uncertainty, fear and violence are constant on our news feed. The 1968 song by Marvin Gaye, "What's Going On," could've been written yesterday. There seem to be giants everywhere we look, but sometimes God will put a Goliath in your life so you can find the David within you.

It seems that now more than ever, **the world needs more Gray Bees.**

But make no mistake — that doesn't happen without all of you and the sacrifices of those who came before us: the monks of Newark Abbey, like Fr. Abbot, Fr. Ed, Fr. Philip, Fr. Albert and the others, who had the courage to stay when others fled a wounded and dying city, and the heroes that they gathered to take a stand, like Mike DiPiano, Bernard Greene, Hank Cordeiro and Paul

Thornton. Together, they answered God's call to do the impossible and breathe life into a school that had been closed by fear.

**“There seem to be giants everywhere we look, but sometimes God will put a Goliath in your life so you can find the David within you. It seems that now more than ever, the world needs more Gray Bees.”**

**The world needs more Gray Bees.**

I have been privileged to work with the young men of St. Benedict's, who display courage every day when they live in a world that is telling them they don't matter. These young men have the courage to face a world that is uncertain and many times unjust. These young men have shown courage in the face of extreme adversity and face that challenge by showing incredible love and compassion toward each other and the world.

These young men have the courage to do what is right simply because it is right.

**The world needs more Gray Bees.**


This is a special evening for me tonight, and although I am appreciative of this honor, I know that it is easy to look good when you play for a great team. Have no doubt — this is a great team.

The monks, faculty and staff at St. Benedict's Prep are like no other. Day in and day out, they go above and beyond to make sure that our kids have what they need to be successful. Every day, they provide the atmosphere and structure needed to propel our young men toward greatness. Every day, people like Michelle Tuorto, Glenn Cassidy, Craig White, Rich Molina, Luis Cruz, Dominic Canova, Sinclair Davis, Jim Duffy and the entire faculty stand ready to do what needs to be done to help our kids. Through them, God shows his presence. I see this every day. I believe that God has endowed upon our faculty the courage to face evils like racism, despair, apathy and depression. Together, we strive to deliver a life of consequence and meaning to our community and the world beyond.

**The world needs more Gray Bees.**

For 28 years, my faith has been sustained and strengthened by this community that I serve and love every day. Our faith helps us not only to endure, but to persevere. Our faith together helps us to answer the call every day. Our faith helps us to see a better world. When other schools are closing, St. Benedict's is growing. Today, we now have Elementary and Middle divisions of young men and women, who together work to create a future that is inclusive, safe and full of hope.

**The world needs more Gray Bees.**

Like the old spiritual tells us, "We can't turn around — we've come this far by faith." Thank you. 





# FOREVER DEPENDS ON



OUR GOAL:  
**\$100 MILLION**

**\$50 MILLION**  
ANNUAL FUND

**\$50 MILLION**  
ENDOWMENT

Gray Bees of every generation tell us: "Continue." "Keep going." "The Hive has to be here forever." Now, your chance has arrived to turn your gratitude, pride and love for St. Benedict's Prep into a lasting legacy. *Forever Benedict's: The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School* is the most ambitious comprehensive Campaign in our history. It will raise \$100 million to ensure that all of our distinctions and traditions

— an 11-month school year, student-leadership, experiential learning, counseling and emotional support for 40% of our students — are here forever.

Forever begins now and it depends on you. Nearly 7,800 loyal alumni and friends have already raised more than \$61 million toward our ultimate goal. Be a part of this historic Campaign and make your gift today! Visit [www.sbp.org/forever](http://www.sbp.org/forever).

# FOREVER BENEDICT'S



*The Campaign for St. Benedict's Preparatory School*

[www.sbp.org/forever](http://www.sbp.org/forever)



**St. Benedict's**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Office of Advancement  
520 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard  
Newark, NJ 07102  
[www.sbp.org](http://www.sbp.org)

For  
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# *Save the Date!*

Presented by

## 2018 Gray Bee Golf Outing



**Monday, September 17**

Spring Lake Golf Club  
Spring Lake, NJ

Rain Date Thursday, September 27

**[sbp.org/graybeegolfouting](http://sbp.org/graybeegolfouting)**



**St. Benedict's**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

For more information, please contact Mary Hauck at [mhauck@sbp.org](mailto:mhauck@sbp.org) or (973) 792-5776.