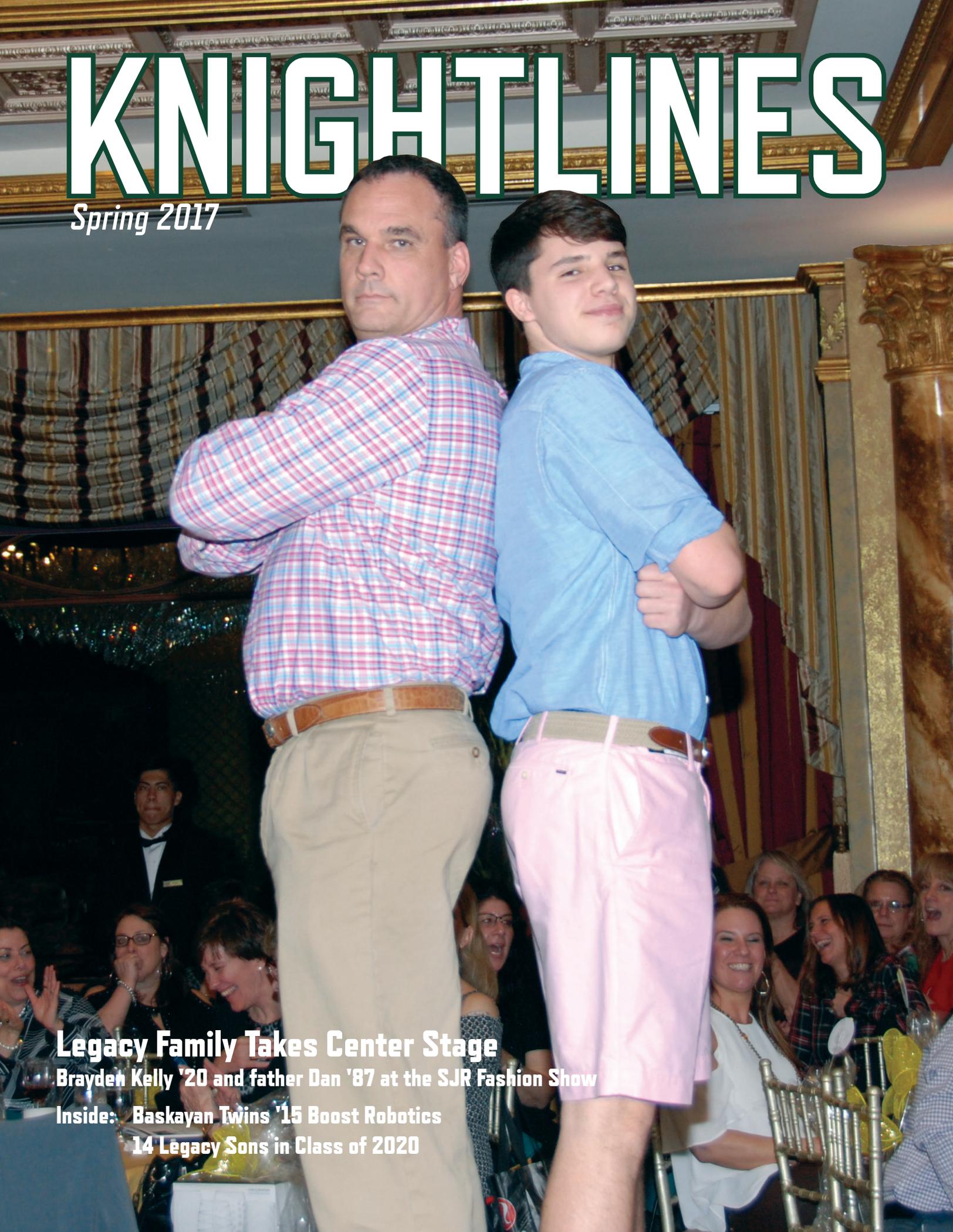


# KNIGHTLINES

*Spring 2017*



## **Legacy Family Takes Center Stage**

**Brayden Kelly '20 and father Dan '87 at the SJR Fashion Show**

**Inside: Baskayan Twins '15 Boost Robotics**

**14 Legacy Sons in Class of 2020**

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FRONT: Dan '87 and Brayden '20 Kelly strut their stuff at the SJR Fashion Show on April 5. Photo courtesy of Mr. James Jarmusch.

BACK: The sunlight bursts through the beautiful mural that serves as the backdrop to the altar in our chapel.

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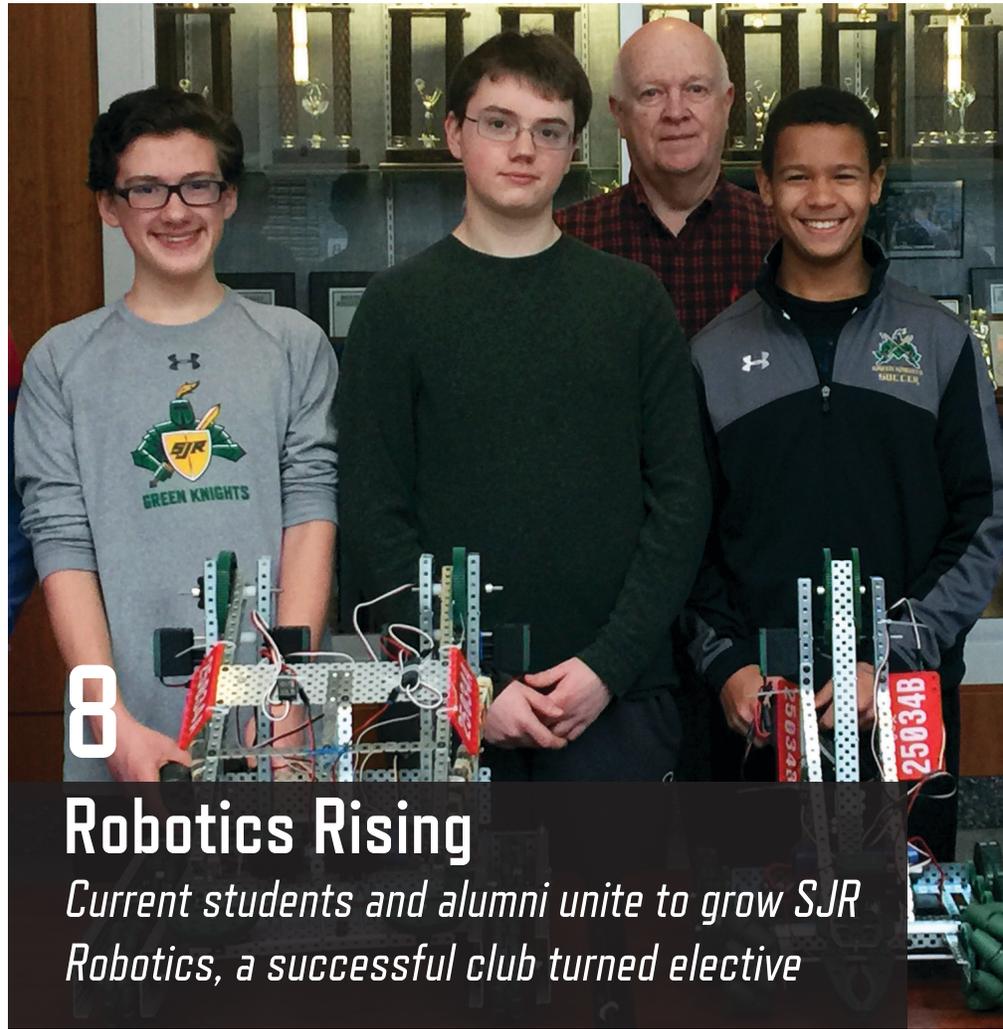
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# From the Desk of the President



## SAINT JOSEPH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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*President*

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Photography: Barry Donnelly '71, Karyn Ochiuzzo

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Dear Friends,

Welcome to the latest edition of *Knightlines*.

This issue takes a look back at the Green Knights' winter sports seasons, our much acclaimed production of *West Side Story*, and our celebration of the Marist Day of Service on March 29, which saw four different groups of students participating in a variety of social outreach programs. The issue also spotlights our Junior Ring Mass, National Honor Society Induction and Alumni Career Day.

The coming of spring is a time of renewal and excitement that marks the seasonal transition from winter to summer, as well as the arrival of last three months of the academic year. It is hard not to look ahead with anticipation and great expectations.

The arrival of warm weather means our spring season can finally kick into high gear. The school play, *Rumors*, takes center stage at the end of April. Lacrosse begins its season under the direction of a new head coach in Dale Weingarten; the golf team earned a top 20 spot in the pre-season North Jersey rankings. Baseball fans are especially excited about the prospects for the 2017 Green Knights, ranked #24 in the country as the season begins, while we

watch Tommy LaStella '07 of the Chicago Cubs and Patrick Kivlehan '08 of the Cincinnati Reds continue their major league baseball careers.

Still, the winding down of a school year inevitably previews a "changing of the guard." On the one hand, though our seniors close out their high school careers with a long list of college acceptances and bright futures in their grasp, they remain united as "faithful men" by the brotherhood they have created among themselves these past four years. Meanwhile, the members of the incoming Class of 2021 are already taking part in the Community Night and Orientation Day activities that mark the formal beginning of their own special years as Green Knights.

Overall, the weeks following Easter are always an exciting and inspiring time, as the transformative "spring awakening" God brings to the world of His creation energizes our own academic, service and extra-curricular programs here at school. Enjoy it.

God bless you,

Barry Donnelly '71  
President





# GREEN & GOLD BUZZ

**O**N FEBRUARY 5, TEAM CAPTAIN **Devin McCourty '05** helped the New England Patriots to victory in Super Bowl LI. It was McCourty's second title with the team.

In what became an instant classic, the Patriots fought back to erase a 28-3 deficit before defeating the Atlanta Falcons in overtime by a 34-28 score.

McCourty, a **second team All-Pro** who was also named to his second Pro Bowl, started all 16 games at safety for the champions. The veteran defensive back made 83 tackles during the regular season as the Patriots captured the AFC East division title with a 14-2 record.

Super Bowl LI marked the fourth time a Green Knight took the field in a Super Bowl. McCourty (Patriots - Super Bowls XLVI, XLIX) and **Vinny Cuirciu '98** (Carolina Panthers - Super Bowl XXXVIII) marked the other occasions.

**S**JR HAD TWO STUDENTS recognized in the **2018 National Merit Scholarship Program**. Each finished in the top 3% nationally on the 2016 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

From the approximately 1.5 million program entrants, **John Tyrie '18** and **Matthew Aliberto '18** each scored among the top 50,000 nationwide.

Tyrie, who hails from of New City, and Aliberto, a Hawthorne native, are ranked #1-2 in the junior class, respectively.

Both were recently inducted to the Ryken National Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society and have been involved with the UNICO Aces program at St. Joe's.

Tyrie is also a member of the SJR band and stage crew while playing soccer and tennis. He has been active with the campus ministry program during his three years at SJR.

**B**EAUTIFYING THE SJR

CAMPUS has long been a project our Eagle Scout students have undertaken for their final projects. **Owen Mitsinikos '18** has picked up the torch as he is planning to renovate and revitalize the outdoor chapel by enlarging the area, adding several benches and updating the landscape. Owen is truly living out the mission of the Boy Scouts by planning, developing and leading others in a project that will benefit the entire SJR community.

**T**HE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT released the **2017 football schedule** earlier this spring. SJR finished 9-2 last year with a state championship and a #1 ranking in New Jersey.

To repeat in 2017, Coach Augie Hoffmann's group will have to navigate another slate of tough competition. In addition to Big North United rivals, the Green Knights will battle two out-of-state foes in Deerfield Beach (FL) and St. John's College (DC). SJR fell to St. John's College 21-10 last season at home.

The October 14 match-up with Pope John is slated for **Homecoming**. Festivities at the game will be followed by an evening reunion for our milestone classes.

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Sat, Sept. 2	Deerfield Beach (FL)	Montvale, NJ	1:00
Sat, Sept. 9	St. John's College (DC)	Washington, DC	1:00
Sat, Sept. 16	Delbarton	Morristown, NJ	1:00
Sat, Sept. 30	Bergen Catholic	Oradell, NJ	1:00
Sat, Oct. 7	Don Bosco	Montvale, NJ	2:30
Sat, Oct. 14	Pope John	Montvale, NJ	1:00
Fri, Oct. 20	St. Peter's Prep	Jersey City, NJ	7:00
Fri, Oct. 27	Paramus Catholic	Paramus, NJ	7:00
Sat, Nov. 4	DePaul	Montvale, NJ	2:30



## SJR Students Visit Yahoo! Finance in Times Square

ON FEBRUARY 23, NINE MEMBERS of *The Guardian* staff visited Yahoo! studios in New York City. The trip was set up by Karl Kilb '82, whose wife, Alexis Christoforous, is a broadcast anchor for Yahoo! Finance.

With Christoforous as a guide, the students got a behind-the-scenes look at everything Yahoo!, especially the finance branch of the company. Along the way, they even got a quick look at Katie Couric's office!

Aspiring journalist Patrick Breen '18 commented that "getting to tour Yahoo! and seeing professionals in action was not only amazing, but inspiring as well."

Christoforous detailed her routine and preparation for her daily broadcast of "Midday Movers," which analyzes stocks that make moves during the morning trading hours. The Green Knights in attendance also got to hear from Peter Kenny, a global market strategist who was a guest on the broadcast.

"It was an eye-opening experience," reflected Colin Medwick '17. "Even though I am interested in journalism, I never realized the intensity and immediacy of the process. Also, Mrs. Christoforous' show was interesting because it tied into economics and politics, my two favorite subjects in school. I'd have to say it was my favorite field trip as a Green Knight!"

- Excerpted from *The Guardian* article by Nathan Tombo '17



Jack Rajkowski '18 strikes a pose with his hero and mother, Pam

## Fashion Show Nets \$50k for Saint Joseph Regional

ON APRIL 5, SJR held its annual Fashion Show, the school's annual fundraising event. The night, which generated more than \$50,000 in net proceeds, began with an extensive tricky tray raffle featuring more than 200 prizes. The cocktail hour was followed by music from the SJR band and songs by Patrick Breen '18, Charlie Cangialosi '18, James Zitelli '18 and Emma Piazza (Northern Highlands) '17.

Modeling came next as fourteen Green Knights took the runway with their heroes — moms, dads, a grandfather and a sister.

A huge thank you to the Fashion Show Committee, headed by Mrs. Mary Jarmusch (mother of Aaron '19), who organized the sold-out event with nearly 350 people in attendance.



(l-r) Tom Brennan, Louis Mednick, Vincent Simpson, Ed Schwartz, Bryan Latawicz and Tony Del Ponte

## Juniors Receive Class Rings

SAINT JOSEPH REGIONAL CELEBRATED its annual Junior Ring Mass on March 23. 68 members of the Class of 2018 received their rings in a ceremony that followed mass, celebrated by former principal Father John Job of Most Blessed Sacrament in Franklin Lakes.

Principal Mike Bruno '05 began the ceremony with an explanation of the design elements that have appeared on all SJR rings over the years and the traditions associated with school rings in general. Students were called before the assembly where parents presented rings to their sons. Each of the Green Knights then presented carnations to their parents as a symbol of appreciation.



Jesse Williams and Isaiah Hopkinson

## 45 Welcomed to Honor Societies

SJR INDUCTED 34 students into the Theodore Ryken National Honor Society on March 9. The ceremony include a liturgy celebrated by Father Andrew Carrozza '81 of St. Ann's in Yonkers, NY. 15 Green Knights earned recognition in the Spanish Honor Society while 11 others were welcomed to the French Honor Society. Before the night ended, the Tri-M Music Honor Society added 14 new members as well.

To be inducted to the NHS, students must have a cumulative, weighted GPA of 93 or better and are also evaluated in terms of character, service and leadership. In the case of the Tri-M Music Honor Society, students must sustain an average of 85 or better, besides making a significant contribution to the music program. World Language honorees must have maintained a 90 or better over three years of study.



## SJR Signs On with Fusfoo

SJR IS ONE OF THE PILOT high schools for Fusfoo, a no-cost digital website that provides an opportunity for students to post content to the web.

Fusfoo, which went live on November 1, gives high school students a safe and engaging space for content to be created, curated, shared and consumed. SJR currently has seven member students as well as the editors of *The Guardian* who serve as contributors. Students work independently and post about topics of their choice — politics, sports, school, food and more.

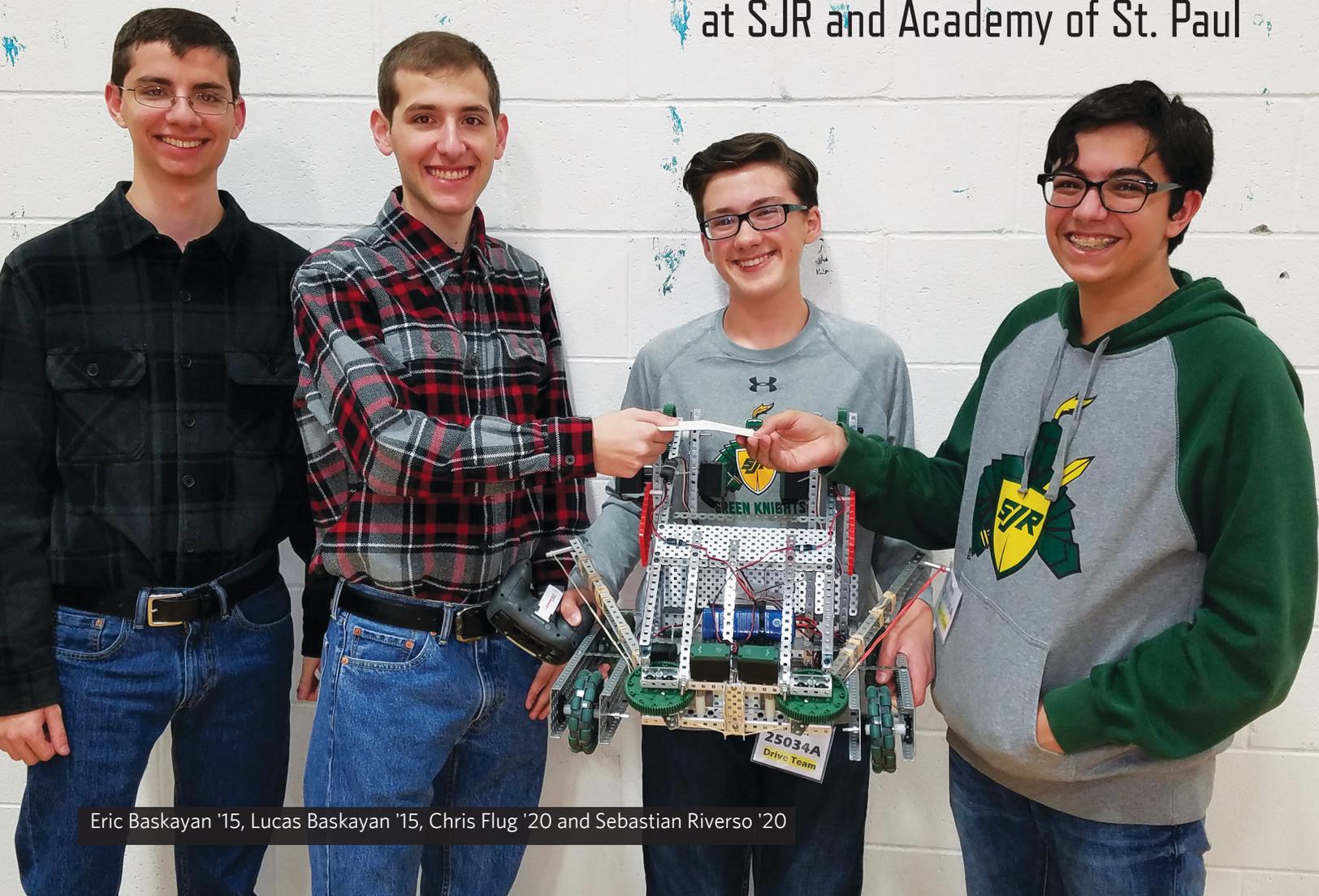
Students can export their portfolio of work for college applications and internship and job interviews.

Participants become part of Fusfoo's national network, where they can view and repost relevant content created by fellow students across the country.

[sjrnj.org/fusfoo/](http://sjrnj.org/fusfoo/)

# PAYING IT FORWARD

Baskayan Twins '15 Help Propel Robotics  
at SJR and Academy of St. Paul



Eric Baskayan '15, Lucas Baskayan '15, Chris Flug '20 and Sebastian Rivero '20

IN 2015, SAINT JOSEPH REGIONAL ENJOYED its most successful robotics season, qualifying for a national competition on the strength of its success (six competition awards) in local events. The Baskayan twins, Lucas '15 and Eric '15 (sons of Gene '82), currently studying engineering at the Stevens Institute of Technology, were the leaders of that team.

Two years later, they have returned to St. Joe's to guide a young Green Knights Robotics team through its 2017 schedule. Their return was the result of a chance meeting with SJR President Barry Donnelly at the Marist Retreat House in New York.

"We were there to assist the Brothers on something that had nothing to do with Robotics," said Lucas, "and we met Mr. Donnelly, who thought our past experience with the VEX

program could be helpful to this year's team. We met Mr. Myatt, the current moderator, and basically became assistant coaches for the rest of the year."

Their contribution has been invaluable.

"They were able to help teach our freshmen and sophomores the basics of robot design, as well as the techniques for building different types of robots," said Mr. Norm Myatt, moderator of the Robotics team. "They were also able to explain to students how the actual competitions were laid out, and how to avoid some of the more common mistakes."

The result was a season in which the team garnered enough competition points to qualify for the New Jersey state VEX competition, where it finished 22 out of the 48 competing

teams, not bad for a squad composed entirely of freshmen and sophomores.

“Without a doubt, the most rewarding aspect of our work this year was being able to see these guys, who knew very little in November, learn how to tackle the problems they would face in competition in a logical and rational way,” said Eric.

“Our experience at Stevens was a big help in this regard, since we have been taught that the engineering process is a sort of step-by-step procedure that must be followed to solve more complex problems. In addition, our two years at Stevens gave us enough basic knowledge to steer team members away from some of the mechanical and electrical roadblocks that plagued us when we were building our first robots.”

Impressively, the Baskayans’ willingness to “give back” extends beyond St. Joe’s to their grammar school as well.

“We are still actively working with the Academy of St. Paul in Ramsey, where we helped their eighth graders on Future City, a national competition that has students build the best city of tomorrow by overcoming all the engineering and scientific challenges that go along with such a project.”



Chris Flug and Lance Fotino '19

Among the students they worked with was Quinn Burns, who made a presentation of St. Paul’s future city called “Navina Jivana” at the Archdiocesan STEM fair at the end of March. Quinn will be a member of the SJR Class of 2021 in September and is excited to continue working in robotics in high school.

While both Baskayan brothers feel the future is bright at SJR (especially with the introduction of a new Robotics elective next year), they agreed that moving the program forward would depend on more student involvement.

“More participants bring diverse ideas and skill sets. An efficient design is just as important as the code that runs the robot,” concluded Lucas. “Having more Green Knight involved means more teams (SJR had three teams with three different robots this year) and that would put SJR on the VEX robotics ‘map’ and help cement its position as a dependable competition team no matter what the challenges are.”



Quinn Burns '21

## Robotics Highlights New Electives Offered at SJR

SJR will offer three new electives to upperclassmen next school year.

### ROBOTICS

Robotics will become the epicenter of SJR’s STEAM initiative. What started as an after-school club has transformed into a lab-based course that uses a hands-on approach to introduce the basic concepts of engineering and engineering problem solving, focusing the construction and programming of mobile robots.

Course information will be tied to lab experiments; students will work in groups to build and test increasingly more complex mobile robots, culminating in an end-of-semester robot contest.



Sam Odusote '19

### AMERICAN HISTORY THROUGH MUSIC

Music has played a significant role in U.S. history, inspiring some to fight wars and other to demand peace, for slaves to escape and workers to organize.

Whether it’s *Yankee Doodle* or Bob Dylan’s *Blowin’ in the Wind*, this course will explore how American music evolved alongside some of the most polarizing historic, economic and sociologic events in U.S. history.

### SPORTS & LITERATURE

Students will examine the relationship between sports and society, investigating the relationship through novels, non-fiction works, newspaper columns and various other forms of media to gain an understanding and appreciate how these ideas are reflected through literature.

# Spanning a Generation

## Class of 2020 Boasts 14 Legacy Sons

**M**ORE THAN 7,000 GREEN KNIGHTS have called Saint Joseph Regional "home" over the past fifty-five years. Some families have taken it a bit further.

There are 91 families with multiple SJR graduates including fourteen legacy families in the Class of 2020 alone.

"It feels like home for us. We just hope that the kids feel the same way," said George Stewart '89, father of Evan '18 and Shane '20. "It's a special thing when your kids can follow in your footsteps and do better than you did."

The very first legacy sons were Patrick Biegala and Chris Killilea of the Class of 1995.

Both were National Honor Society inductees involved in multiple activities at school. Biegala even served as the school mascot.

Since then 121 sons have followed their fathers through the Montvale halls with an equally diverse set of interests.

The Class of 2020 legacies have already shone brightly in the classroom, on the stage, on the lacrosse field as well as through the campus ministry program.

So what about being a Green Knight has such an allure?

"People see the value in a faith-based education. People that walked these halls realize that these were the best four years of their lives," said Dan Kelly '87, father of Brayden '20.

Stewart added: "Being around strong teachers and coaches



while preparing for the next stage of their life was very important to us."

"My experience at SJR was both a nurturing one and a challenging one. I knew Declan would be pushed to succeed at SJR, and I can see that happening already," echoed Patrick Henry '86, father of Declan '20.

For their part, the current crop of students seem to share those sentiments. For Brayden Kelly '20, Dan's son, the decision to attend SJR went beyond his father's connection to the school.

"Yes, my father's experience had an impact on my decision, but also the ones of my uncle Tom (Kelly '82) and two cousins, JT ('12) and Shane (Kennedy '15). They all spoke so positively about the impact it has had on their lives."

Chris Santise '89, father of Troy '20, recognized that connection from the other side of the table in speaking for his fellow dads.

"St Joe's molded us into the people we are today. All that are returning had very positive experiences and want our sons to have the same."

One notable aspect of the decision process for the sons was just that — it was a decision and it was their decision.

"I wanted to share the experience with my boys, but it was their choice," said Kevin Stapleton '81, father of Devin '20, Dylan '17, Matt '14 and Sean '12. His brother Brian '90 also has a son, Devin, in the Class of 2020.

"I'm glad they made the right choice," he added with a smile.



Todd '87 and Travis '20 Alderton receive communion from Barry Donnelly '71



Nearly all of the current Class of 2020 legacies took part in SJR's Knight for a Day program, shadowing a current student to get a real sense of what goes on during a typical day at school.

"When I came to visit, everybody, faculty and students alike, was so friendly with one another, which was how my father described his experience when he attended SJR," mentioned Declan Henry.

Chris Nelson '83, father of Chris '20, recalled the decision-making process proudly. The younger Chris, who lives only an 1/8 of a mile from Bergen Catholic, shadowed students at both schools.

"We definitely wanted Chris to go to a Catholic school, but I wanted him to decide on his own. The easy decision was probably Bergen because it was so close, but he found Joe's to be more family-oriented and a better fit for him."

With nearly thirty years between walking the halls as a student and as a parent surely much has changed.

"The biggest difference is the technology available to the students. The Chromebook initiative and online learning have changed the landscape of education for this generation at SJR," suggested Henry '86.

"It is great to see our high school as one of the early adopters of the technology."

While change is inevitable in some sense, the core values at Saint Joseph Regional remain the same and dictate the nature of the experience in the hallways.

"Over the years I had always been impressed with the commitment to academic success along with continuous improvements to the facilities. As a parent, I wanted my son's

high school experience to be fulfilling while also preparing him for the challenges ahead, in college and beyond," said Chris Santise '89, father of Troy '20.

There is no doubt the alumni fathers feel a sense of pride in seeing their sons take advantage of the same opportunities they enjoyed as young men.

"When fathers look back to their time here, they appreciate the great opportunities they were given by their parents and their teachers and want the same for their son," said the elder Henry.

The common thread between all of the legacy families in the Class of 2020 was a sense of family, of faith and of unique opportunity.

Brayden Kelly added: "What made me want to come to Saint Joe's is the opportunity to practice my faith in a learning setting along with the ability to be exposed to all the opportunities this great school has to offer."

"Everybody here realizes what we're sacrificing to put our kids in school," said Stapleton. "So it just feels like family when you walk through the doors and it helps build a tremendous foundation for our boys."

The school's mission is to create that foundation for success and to graduate the *Vir Fidelis*, the "Faithful Man."

Nelson concluded, "My wife and I know that when you leave St. Joe's, you come out a better person, the person that we want [Chris] to be coming out of high school."



# West Side Story Lauded by Audiences, Critics Alike



SJR's 2017 production of *West Side Story* wowed sold-out audiences for nine performances in January and February. The show earned 38 preliminary nominations from the Papermill Playhouse Rising Star program, making it not only one of the most popular productions in school history, but potentially one of the most decorated.

Nominations included recognition in both performance and production categories. Individuals receiving three or four preliminary nominations will be in the running for final nominations, to be announced later in the spring, with the Rising Star Awards ceremony to follow in June.

*West Side Story* cast and production team members who have received three or four preliminary nominations include **James Zitelli '18** (Lead Actor), Scarsdale's **Melinda Orengo '18** (Lead Actress), **Luke Berninger '19** (Featured Actor), IHA's **Megan Roche '18**, **John Zupan** (Musical Director), **Tammy Colucci** (Choreographer) and **Curtis Reik** (Lighting Design).

The production was also reviewed by the Metropolitan High School Theater Awards; its nominations come later this spring.

In addition, the nominations for the Rising Star Educational Impact Award, of which SJR is a six-time winner, will be announced soon. During the two-week run of the show, the production's lobby committee created a variety of displays charting the history of social activism and efforts to fight discrimination and prejudice throughout American history.

The campus ministry office, working in conjunction with the *West Side Story* production team, is planning a school-wide program called Project H.E.A.R.T. (Harmony, Empathy, Awareness, Respect and Tolerance) to generate discussion of these social justice issues by the larger school community through assemblies and the presentations of guest speakers.



## Santino '20 Brings Ballet to Center Stage

Many high school productions skip the scene altogether. Others trim the content to hide the obvious challenge: not many high school boys are up to the challenge of a complex ballet routine on stage.

Not so at SJR.

John Santino '20 proved a scene-stealer during Act II of *West Side Story*, wowing audiences at Inserra Theater as part of the *Ballet Sequence* scene. He recently competed in the Young American Grand Prix, a classical ballet and contemporary competition for students across the globe. It is the largest international dance competition.

Santino competed in Philadelphia as the youngest member of the senior division. While he fell just short of moving on to the finals, he is already looking forward to next year.

"Afterwards, I was frustrated," Santino said. "But I realized it was my first year [at the competition], and there is a lot more opportunity to come from this."

After the competition, Santino had the opportunity to attend several master classes, taught by some of the best dance instructors in the world. He took the Senior Ballet class as well as the Variation class, where he learned a variation from *Swan Lake*.

"I learned a lot and had a spectacular time participating in the YAGP," added Santino. "I will work very hard and keep on practicing. As they say, practice make perfect after all."



Riff (Patrick Breen '18) and Bernardo (Zack Almonte '17)



## Rumors Has It

In April, the Inserra Theater played host to SJR's production of *Rumors*, a comedy by Neil Simon, that marked the completion of ten years of "non-musicals" for the Performing Arts program.

When it appeared on Broadway in 1988, *Rumors* was a departure from Simon's better known works (such as our own award-winning 2013 production of *Brighton Beach Memoirs*) in that it is a broad farce involving its cast in a series of convoluted lies as they try to cover up a potential scandal.



The SJR cast included Charles Cangialosi '18, Daniel Costello '17, Chris Marzulla '18, Christian Papa '17, Marc Rivera '20, Nate Troche '18, Jack Zaccaro '19 and James Zitelli '18.

"Working on a comedy like *Rumors* was a lot of fun and a wonderful contrast to performing January's *West Side Story*," said Mr. Frank Ingrassciotta, who has received three directorial nominations from Montclair State in just five years at SJR. "We shared a lot of laughs as we explored the world of farce."



## Marzulla '18 Earns Best Lead Actor Award

SJR's 2016 production of *Ordinary People* received eight nominations from the Montclair State High School Theater Awards program. Cast and team members with nominations included **Chris Marzulla '18** and **James Zitelli '18** (Lead Actor), **Chris Cheeseman '16** and **Nick Berninger '16** (Supporting Actor), **Victoria Duffy** (Lead Actress), **Eric Fredericks** (Sound Design) and **Frank Ingrassciotta** (Direction).

The show was also nominated as Best High School Drama; since St. Joe's started doing "non-musicals" in 2008, every one of the school's nine shows has been nominated as either Best Comedy or Best Drama.

In the end, the big winner was junior Chris Marzulla, who received the Best Lead Actor "Foxy" Award for his performance as Conrad Jarrett, the troubled protagonist of the play.

## SJR Earns Eight Metropolitan Theater Award Nominations

The Metros were announced on May 16, and SJR's production of *West Side Story* was the recipient of eight nominations including Outstanding Lobby Display. Other nominees included **Alex Birchwale '18** and Northern Highlands' **Emma Piazza '17** (Duet), **John Santino '20** (Dance Performance), **Vincent Simpson '18** (Male Acting Performance), the Jets (Ensemble Group), **Bill Fitzpatrick '18** (Featured Ensemble Member), Piazza (Lead Actress) and **John Zupan** (Musical Direction).

The Metros will be presented on Monday, June 12 at SUNY Purchase College.



# Recognizing Greatness

## *Six new members join SJR Hall of Fame*

**T**HE 2017 HALL OF FAME CLASS is one of the most distinguished in school history. The group included men who have had a profound impact on SJR, but who also enjoyed success in business, medicine, law, the military and beyond.

Yet when asked to reflect back, none saw a particular class or activity that paved the way for their success.

**To a man, the group cited the school's culture of family as something that had a positive impact at the time and continues to resonate to this day.**

Dr. Paul Collier '71 spoke on behalf of the Collier Family, including his four brothers, Andy '70, Peter '73, James '75 and John

'78. He proudly stated that his friends know exactly where he went to high school, but many do not know that the Sewickley, PA resident attended UPenn.

That pride was well established when Collier was captain of the football team in 1971, a team, he noted, that was not nearly as successful as the current iteration. Before concluding his remarks, Collier offered a special toast to his classmate President Donnelly '71.

Lieutenant General (Ret.) Ralph Jodice '73, who enjoyed an remarkable career in the US Air Force, spoke humbly, stealing a few glances at his well-shined shoes.

He described himself as simply a Jersey boy from New Milford who learned

valuable skills at St. Joe's and has enjoyed staying involved with the school as a commencement speaker and guest of the football team on its recent trip to California and Camp Pendleton.

Dave Lehanski '92 could not pinpoint one particular moment, but noted the totality of the experience at St. Joe's that helped lay groundwork for his successful future.

Lehanski, who transferred to SJR as a sophomore, concluded "It really is amazing, just three years at St. Joe's has given me a lifetime of joy and happiness."

After his remarks, hockey team captains Andrew Delpriore '18, Connor Grieco '19 and Andrew Javier '18 presented Lehanski with his old Green Knights jersey.

Dr. Bryan Winn '93 starred as Pippin and Barnum on the SJR stage long before becoming an ophthalmologist at Columbia University Medical Center/ New York-Presbyterian Hospital. And while he fondly recalled his initial foray into theater, he spoke poignantly about his start in the sciences at St. Joe's.

Mr. Thomas Piccate, the school's chemistry teacher, noticed Winn sitting in the hallway each day after school, waiting for his ride, so Piccate offered him a job as a lab assistant. The rest is history as Winn's interest in science was forever piqued.

The night would not be complete without another surprise and the SJR Performing Arts program delivered. As a special treat for Winn, James Zitelli '18 and Bill Fitzpatrick '18 sang an incredible rendition of *Pippin's* "Corner of the Sky" with Alex Birchwale '18 on piano.

Alumni parents and benefactors Thomas Neumann and Mark Plescia Sr. highlighted the value of a Catholic education that their sons enjoyed at SJR.

Neumann, former President of SJR Board of Consultants, said that he was formerly a proponent of public schools, but became a firm believer in the quality of a Catholic school education.

He pointed not only to the \$43 million in scholarships earned by the Classes of 2015 and 2016, but to the lifelong bonds forged in the hallways as evidence of the strength of an SJR education.

"Putting our children in the Catholic school system was the best parental decision we ever made."

Plescia, a four-time alumni parent, has done many great things to improve St. Joe's over the years.

He used his time at the podium to thank all of the teachers who had helped mold his brother, his four alumni sons and his grandson, Luke '18, at St. Joe's.

In closing, Plescia stated that students at St. Joe's "just want to be there."

"It's home to them."



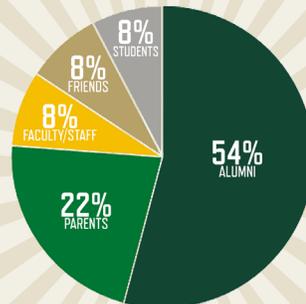
## Day of Giving Surpasses Expectations

SJR's third annual Day of Giving began on May 17 with a goal of generating \$90,000 from its alumni and community. Devin and Jason McCourty '05 pledged an additional \$10,000 if the goal was reached, a pledge that would boost the total to six figures for the first time in school history. Last year's final tally was \$85,648. All proceeds will directly benefit current and future Green Knights through curriculum enhancements, capital projects, technology improvements and financial aid/scholarships. Needless the say, the numbers below speak for themselves.

# THANK YOU!

**WE EXCEEDED ALL EXPECTATIONS!** In just 24 hours, a total of 512 Green Knights made gifts totaling \$126,081 in support of Saint Joseph Regional. You showed your pride and helped us charge past our goal - thank you for the difference you are making for our hardworking students.

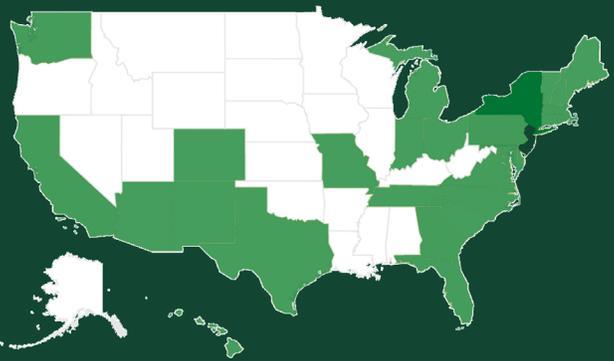
OUR DONORS



**\$126,081** Raised



WHERE WERE OUR DONORS FROM?



**100%**  
Class Participation



**100%**  
Faculty Giving

# On the Road: Boston

ON APRIL 29, Saint Joseph Regional hosted its first-ever regional alumni reception in Boston.

More than two dozen former Green Knights, along with their families, joined fellow alum Devin McCourty '05 of the New England Patriots at Del Frisco's in Boston's Seaport District.

Alumni from all six decades of SJR's history were in attendance.

President Barry Donnelly '71 provided a brief welcome before a video slideshow showcased recent achievements at SJR.

McCourty brought along his Super Bowl hardware for a unique photo opportunity, but the highlight for many was simply reminiscing about their time at SJR.

The Development Office is looking to host future events in regional locations. Targets for this upcoming year include Washington (DC), Philadelphia and Southwest Florida.

Interested in helping organize an event in your area? Please contact Scott Donnelly at 201-391-3300 x230 or via email at [donnellys@sjrnj.org](mailto:donnellys@sjrnj.org).



Clockwise from top: Rob '91, Ava and Owen DeSalvo pose with Devin McCourty '05; Paul Weingartner '67, Brother Tom Puccio, CFX '68, President Barry Donnelly '71 and Joseph Mullin '67; McCourty with Preston '74 and John O'Toole; Patrick Doherty '15, Chris Cheeseman '16 and Matt Doherty '11



Green Knights spanning five decades were on hand on January 7 for the 2017 SJR Alumni Basketball Game. Twenty-two representatives ranging from the Class of 1970 through the Class of 2016 took the court (while others enjoyed from the stands), helping to make the game and reception fun-filled and injury free! Highlights galore punctuated the game as "threes" rained down on the hoops. No dunks recorded (or even attempted) this year!



Alumni of the SJR Performing Arts program are certainly no strangers to the annual productions, concerts and shows that make up the calendar of events. This year was no exception as alums from several decades, including different iterations of *West Side Story* (1976, 1998, 2008), were on hand on Friday, February 3 for the evening's performance. The group enjoyed a post-show reception with homemade snacks and cocktails.



Nearly 30 former SJR hockey players took part in the 12th Annual Alumni Hockey Game at Sport-O-Rama on Saturday, March 11. The Green Knights (2006-2016) took home the crown with a 10-6 victory. The winners jumped out to a 5-1 first period lead before the White Knights (1990-2005) closed the gap to make it a 7-4 game entering the final stanza. The teams exchanged tallies in the third period before a frantic final minute saw three more goals, two by the Green Knights to seal the victory.

# Any Dream Will Do

## *On Tour with Chris Kasper '95*

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**O**N THE STAGE AT SJR, Chris Kasper '95 donned a colorful jacket as he starred as Joseph in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* as a senior.

Nowadays, the singer-songwriter has a different trademark accessory on stage.

He has traded in the dreamcoat. A stylish fedora with a colorful feather is now a staple atop Kasper's head when he steps up to the microphone.

Kasper is winding down a string of shows on both coasts — and everywhere in between. His final scheduled show — set for May 25 at the World Cafe Live in Philadelphia — will double as a release party with the release of his newest album, *O, the Fool*.

*O, the Fool* was written and recorded over the last two years, inspired by his treks across the United States while playing live shows.

"Traveling back and forth between the South and the West provided a lot of the inspiration to these songs, the feel, the lyrics," said Kasper recently in an email to his fans. "I'm beyond thrilled to share it with you!"

According to his website, his music has been compared to everything from Paul Simon to Beck, and draws on inspiration from musical greats such as Bill Withers and Levon Helm.

Several veterans of the SJR stage have made their living in the business, but most have found their way to positions behind the scenes. Kasper is one of the few to make it with a guitar in his hand.

Now based in Philadelphia, Kasper has followed his dream of becoming a musician and been on the road for much of the past 12 years. In that time, he has often shared the stage with the likes of Amos Lee, The Avett Brothers, Tristan Prettyman, Good Old War and The Wood Brothers.

For the most part a solo performer, Kasper added "producer" and "arranger" to his resume with his fourth album, *Bagabones*, released in 2013. The result is an album of rare depth and true originality that stands up on its own to be recognized.

*Bagabones* is preceded by *The First Hundred Years are the Hardest* (2011), *Chasing Another Sundown* (2009), and *Flying Boy* (2006). For more information, visit [www.chriskasper.com](http://www.chriskasper.com).



# IS KASPIER





# IN ACTION



Mr. Joseph LoGuidice, Luis Gonzalez '17, Gustavo Reyes '20, Kevin Fitzpatrick '18, Frank Ballante '20, Carlos Buelras '20, Paul Szabo '20 and Marco Schecter '20

**M**EMBERS OF THE RESPECT FOR LIFE CLUB JOINED the hundreds of thousands of peaceful protesters who assembled in Washington, D.C. on January 21 to defend the right to life. Through a joint effort with Paramus Catholic, both schools filled a bus and traveled down to the capital together to attend the annual March for Life. In April, students joined forces once again at the Life is Good Rally in Kearny, NJ.

SJR HOSTED ITS ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE on March 30 and saw more than 40 Green Knights donate a pint of blood to Community Blood Services. It proved worth the wait after a snow day forced the blood bank to reschedule.

Students age 18 and over were able to participate with nearly 30% of the senior class making a donation. There were also several juniors to gave blood and look forward to doing it again next year. In addition, staff members including President Barry Donnelly '71 and Principal Mike Bruno '05, as well as several current parents took the plunge. All told - Saint Joseph Regional donated 44 pints of blood.



Yves Montisol '17, Chris Ruppert '17 and Joseph Tendurella '17

## Retreats Give Students Time to Reflect

SJR students have enjoyed a variety of different retreat opportunities, both on- and off-campus in recent weeks.

The school continues its faith formation tradition with in-school retreats that all students have the opportunity to make a retreat. Seniors focused on ethics and making difficult decisions. The junior class spent their day learning more about Catholic Social Teaching with a segment on human trafficking. The sophomores are slated for their class retreat later this marking period while the freshmen enjoyed various breakout session that touching on faith and Eucharistic adoration.

Sophomores and juniors enjoyed a leadership experience focused on serving others at the Marist Brothers' Center at Esopus.

In late March, five Green Knights were selected, along with fellow students from fourteen other schools, to attend LaValla Weekend, also at the MBCE. The students engaged in a refugee simulation, learning the realities that refugees and displaced peoples face every day. They had the privilege of spending the weekend with a family of Syrian refugees.



Patrick Breen '18 at the Marist Brothers' Center at Esopus



# ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

THE FIRST PARISH

1826

## Doing Good is Good to Do

On March 29, SJR participated in the Marist National Day of Service along with countless other schools and communities. Service projects were planned across the nation and the Green Knights visited four different locations in the area to give their time to a variety of organizations.

One group of boys stopped by the Community Food Bank of New Jersey in Hillside where they helped to organize donations for distribution to those in need. Across the river in The Bronx, another group headed to Mount St. Michael Academy to visit retired Marist Brothers at their homes.

The following day, still more Green Knights traveled to St. John's Soup Kitchen in Newark where they served lunch to local residents after preparing them in the kitchen.

A scheduled trip to Bergen County Special Services in Paramus had to be moved to the following week, but proved worth the wait.

"It was enlightening to hear stories from those in different situations, with different pasts," said Anthony D'Appolito '20, who visited the Marist brothers and spent time at the soup kitchen. "These trips bring perspective and make me grateful for all of the blessings I have in my life."

All students who volunteered also participated in a prayer service to reflect on their experience.

"The Marist Day of Service was an awesome experience for our students, opening their eyes to the needs of our own communities," said Director of Campus Ministry Mr. Joseph LoGuidice. "To say we are a Catholic school would be nothing if we did not walk the walk."





# IN ACTION

THE 2016-2017 **BASKETBALL SQUAD** stamped its imprint on program history as the team posted an overall record of 22-6 (tied for 5<sup>th</sup> most wins in school history).

Playing perhaps the most challenging schedule ever for the Green Knights, they defeated five teams that were ranked in the state's Top 20, and won their first-ever game against an international foe, downing St. Laurent (Montreal), 69-43, as part of the Skyline Classic. The team was continually ranked as one of the Top 5 teams in North Jersey and Top 15 in the state, finishing the season ranked #11 in New Jersey.

The Green Knights, led by First Team All-County performer Chauncey Hawkins '17, reached the semifinals in both the Bergen County Jamboree and the NJSIAA Sectional playoffs.

Hawkins is just the fifth player in school history to eclipse the 1,000 point plateau, finishing as SJR's #2 all-time scorer with 1,198 career points. He was named *The Record's* Athlete of the Week in January, was selected to play in the North-South



Chauncey Hawkins '17

All-Star Basketball Classic and was a McDonald's High School All-America nominee.

The JV team finished 15-6 and captured the title at the Raiders Holiday Jamfest. The freshmen squad also took the crown at the Raiders Holiday Jamfest on its way to a 15-3 record.

THE SJR **BOWLING TEAM** completed a 13-4 season, breaking the program record for victories.

The Green Knights finished 6-2 in league play, defeating all league foes (BC, DePaul, Don Bosco, PC) at least once.

Nathan Tombo '17 garnered Second Team All-County and First Team All-League recognition. It was the third consecutive season in which Tombo was a First Team All-League performer.

Ray Schmitt '20 joined Tombo on the All-League First Team and Frank Salvano was named Big North United Coach of the Year, his first bowling honors after years on the baseball diamond.

ON THE ICE, GREEN KNIGHTS **HOCKEY** captured the Big North Freedom Division title while compiling a 15-7-2 record (8-1-1 in league play).



Sammy Alvarez '19

Led by Dominick Posta '17 (18 goals) and defensemen Cole Garabed '17 (21 points), the squad spent much of the season ranked in the Top 20 of the state before falling to #4 Christian Brothers in the NJSIAA tournament. Along the way, head coach Larry Mahurter '87 notched his 300th career victory.

**WINTER TRACK SAW MANY** contributions from underclassmen, especially Luke Berninger '19 and Gianni Lisa '19 in the sprints and relays and Gus Reyes '20 in the mid-distance events.

Individually, Habacuc Toupuissant '17 was the 55m winner at the Ed Church Invitational while Berninger (Pole Vault) and Reyes (400m Frosh) were Big North champions. Yasir Berry '18 is one of the top jumpers in North Jersey.

The Green Knights took third place at County Relays including first place in the Long Jump and second in the High Jump.

THE **WRESTLING TEAM** finished the season with a 6-9 record and will return all but two seniors to next year's squad.

### First Team All-County

Basketball: Chauncey Hawkins; Wrestling: Sammy Alvarez

### Second Team All-County

Basketball: Isaac Hippolyte; Bowling: Nathan Tombo; Wrestling: Brian Sidle

### Third Team All-County

Basketball: Joseph Radi; Hockey: Cole Garabed, Dominick Posta; Wrestling: Joe Napoleone

### Honorable Mention All-County

Winter Track: Luke Berninger, Yasir Berry

### First Team All-League

Basketball: Chauncey Hawkins, Isaac Hippolyte, Joseph Radi; Bowling: Ray Schmitt, Nathan Tombo; Hockey: Dominick Posta; Winter Track: Luke Berninger; Wrestling: Sammy Alvarez

### Second Team All-League

Basketball: Smith Vilbert; Bowling: James Regan-Ward, Antonio Sirianni; Hockey: Cole Garabed; Wrestling: Joe Napoleone, Brian Sidle

### Honorable Mention All-League

Basketball: Steve Foster; Bowling: Ross Foothorap; Hockey: Connor Grieco, Pat Lynch; Winter Track: Luke Plescia

Sammy Alvarez '18 was a 2017 District and Regional Champion. He reached the state final after upsetting the top seed in the semifinals before dropping a heartbreaker in the finale in Atlantic City.

Joe Napoleone '18 captured a District crown and finished third in the county. Team captain Brian Sidle '18 improved on six wins last year to a record of 30-8 and a berth in the state tournament.

# Spring Brings Rain, Delays

**SJR BASEBALL** BEGINS 2017 with lofty aspirations as it seeks the Triple Crown (league, county, state championships).

"Every year we want to be the last team playing. We want to be on the field through June," said head coach Mark Cieslak.

The Green Knights are in prime position to do just that, returning several key players and entered the season ranked #24 in the United States by MaxPreps, highest of any team in the Northeast. A weekend trip to Myrtle Beach for exhibition play saw the team escape the soggy spring and get a full tune-up in before league play began.

**THE GREEN KNIGHTS GOLF** team looks to improve on their 11-11 record from a season ago. The entire roster returns, and the experience will be necessary against some of the state's best. In addition to the regular season schedule, the team will compete in the North Jersey Open and the Arcola Invitational.

Returning state qualifier, Antonio Sirianni '17, leads a group hoping to make noise in the county and state tournaments.

**SJR LACROSSE** WELCOMES A NEW head coach (see sidebar) on the sidelines and several new players on the field. While the offense features veterans including Pat Fay '17, the team's defense is littered with underclassmen.

"We are a young team, which will be good in the long run," said head coach Dale Weingarten. "We will focus on developing the younger players into experienced, varsity-level competitors."

**SPRING TRACK** WILL BE LED by a strong group of junior jumpers, including Yasir Berry '18 and Isaiah Hopkinson '18. Habacuc Toupuissant '17 and Isaiah Charles '17 headline a deep pack of sprinters that also includes Gianni Lisa '19. Luke Plescia '18 heads a younger distance pack while Luke Berninger '19 is coming off a winter season where he won the league title in the Pole Vault. The dual meet season began on April 10.

**TENNIS** WILL RELOAD AFTER losing four seniors to graduation. However, their void has left an opportunity for underclassmen to step up and earn a spot on the squad.

Captain Nathan Tombo '17, Tyler Conroy '18 and Luke Farinella '19 have led the way in singles play. The retooled squad notched a second place finish at the Comet Invitational on April 2.

# SJR Names Pair of New Head Coaches

**DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS TONY KARCICH** recently named Dale Weingarten and Christien Vlahinich '07 to head coaching posts for SJR's lacrosse and soccer programs, respectively.

Weingarten is currently the GM of New Jersey Home Field Advantage, an indoor multi-sports facility in Bergen County, and the Director of the NJ Lacrosse Academy. In those roles, he has played an integral role in bringing lacrosse to its present level of prominence on the Bergen County scholastic scene. Along the way, Weingarten has helped nurture a generation of youth and high school lacrosse players as coach and clinician, including serving as an assistant coach at Bergen Catholic from 2009-2016.



"Coach Weingarten brings a wealth of experience and past success in this area," said Karcich. "I look forward to the growth our lacrosse program under his leadership."



Weingarten expressed his excitement by saying, "There is a lot of positive energy on campus thanks to a rise in enrollment and recent success on the field. SJR is now an option for area lacrosse players to bring their game to the next level."

Vlahinich, who currently teaches history at SJR, had been the freshmen soccer coach since 2015. In that role, he created a positive yet disciplined environment targeted at different areas of development. Vlahinich who is working on his master's degree at Rutgers University's Newark campus, also serves in a variety of other capacities in the North Jersey soccer community. He is a trainer with Pro Elite Soccer Academy, an Assistant Coach with Quick Touch Football Club, based in Metuchen, and the U17 Coach and U10 Summer Select Coach for the NJ Heat in Bergen County.

"It's always nice when we have the opportunity to hire one of our own," stated Karcich. "He was very effective coaching our freshmen team, and we look forward to seeing that same success at the varsity level."

"I am excited to step into this new role" added Vlahinich. "We have a great group of hardworking young men and a strong nucleus that will work to see success."



# CONNECTIONS

## 1967

**JOHN BYRNE** retired at the end of last year from BASF Corporation and is now the President of JWB Scientific Solutions, LLC. He is looking forward to attending his 50<sup>th</sup> year reunion this fall.

## 1968

**KEVIN CLARK** retired from teaching at Cal Poly, but is still writing. He just finished *The Wanting*, his new small book of poems about the Vietnam War which is available on Amazon.com.

**JOHN FARLEY** retired in February 2016 and now volunteers as a docent at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC while also serving as a Big Brother. John and **BOB DUNNE** recently enjoyed a Washington Capitals vs. New York Rangers game together.

**DAN FAY** recently moved to sunny Ponte Vedra Beach, FL and is loving it.

**BOB FORMISANO** retired in April 2016 after 42 years in the institutional investment business. He has two children and one grandchild and plans on spending his retirement between Vero Beach, FL and Pebble Beach, CA.

**BILL JAHN** and his son, Kalle, were recently accepted to ski in Sweden's Vasaloppet (Sälen to Mora 90km) ski race on March 4, 2018.

**JIM REDNER** will be back east on June 10 on the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> annual summer lunch get-together of the Class of '68. **ART SCHUMACHER** is making the trip up from Virginia to be there. Email Jim at [wjrocbp@aol.com](mailto:wjrocbp@aol.com) for more details.

## 1971

Deacon **STEPHEN KERN** was recently named Director, Office of the Diaconote for the Diocese of Metuchen (NJ).

## 1973

**GEORGE DETITTA** just finished Season 2 as the Set Decorator for *Shades of Blue*, starting Jennifer Lopez and Ray Liotta on NBC. He has also been helping out daughter Lauren with the set decoration for *Homeland's*



Season 6. He reports that *Homeland* has "one killer set — the Oval Office." DeTitta, who has been nominated for two Academy Awards for Best Art Direction, also spent time exploring the country's national parks with his father and daughter.

**BOB KAISER** retired three years ago as a Senior Project Manager for Michael Baker International, Inc. He and his wife, Marsha, live in the Washington, DC area. The couple has two girls who live nearby, now 28 and 31, both married, and one grandson. Kaiser fishes 2-3 times per week, having taken up fly fishing eight years ago and has — thus far — visited 49 US states (all but North Dakota). He and his wife have also traveled internationally with repeat visits to Scotland and Ireland and a trip to western Europe next up on the agenda.

## 1975

**WILLIE REALE** was a Supervising Producer for three seasons on *Blue Bloods*, starring Tom Selleck and Donnie Wahlberg on CBS. His lengthy career has garnered an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Song ("Patience" in *Dreamgirls*) and a pair of Tony Award nominations — Best Book of a Musical and Best Original Score — for *A Year with Frog and Toad*.

## 1977

The Class of '77 is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> year reunion on June 3. The group will play golf in the morning, then enjoy a cookout at the home of **MICHAEL DOOLEY**. Another reunion celebration will be held at SJR this fall. For more info, contact **MARK WAGNER** at [markgwagner@charter.net](mailto:markgwagner@charter.net).

## 1982

**KARL KILB**, CEO of mobile pay platform Boloro, was recently featured in a Yahoo! Finance interview discussing the growth of mobile payments in India and China.



Kilb suggests that "India is ideal for growth because you have far over a billion people, 18% of the population, and the government has said it wants people to pay with mobile.

"Our multi-channel, multi-factor authentication and mobile payments process is distinguished from the rest of the industry."

Its system enables contactless payments by tapping your phone or NFC (near-field communication) tag. Boloro sends the confirmation request over flash message, using the same rails as amber alerts, so it doesn't require the customer to access the Internet. That makes the transaction more painless and more secure, Kilb argues, making it well-suited to markets like India, where most consumers have old flip-phones." - Excerpted from Yahoo! Finance (Daniel Roberts)

## 1988

Author **JAMIE REIDY** recounts his attempt to attend 365 games in 365 days in his new book *Need One!* "With very little planning and even less funding, the itinerary calls for Reidy to hit a sports event every day, ranging from the Super Bowl down to a six-year-old girls' basketball game."



# Knights Unite for Career Day

**F**OURTEEN SJR ALUMNI and one current parent made a return visit to school this March for the annual Career Day for juniors and seniors. The event provides a unique opportunity for students to formulate their ideas for college and beyond.

This year's presenters included: (back row) Jude Cancellieri '93, Dr. Michael Monaco '97, Dr. Thomas Monaco '99, John Flaherty '85, Bruce Buckman '06, Kevin Rooney '02, Joseph Cuccia '06, Mike Just '02, Dan Kelly '87, (front row), Chip Bogdanski (Parent '18), Tim Lauzon '76, Tom Devine '82 and Edwyn Macelus '05. In addition, Jason Abrams '02 of LinkedIn Learning and Taylor Popielarz '11 of ABC57 News used Facetime to present from San Francisco and South Bend, IN, respectively.

As usual, the feedback from the current Green Knights was positive. "My favorite part of Mr. Abrams' presentation was when he discussed how he manages his salesmen because it gave me a better insight on how to manage employees in the sales field and what traits you need to run an efficient business," said Anthony D'Appolito '17.

John Tyrie '18 sat in on Macelus' discussion: "Mr. Macelus gave a great presentation about some of the ins and outs of being an attorney, and had plenty of helpful advice to share about our college decisions and career paths. I was impressed by his ability to easily relate to us students, and I am thankful for his commitment to giving back to SJR."

- Excerpted from *The Guardian* article by Scott Dickson '18



Jason Abrams '02 addresses students from San Francisco



Nicholas Brett '17, Conor McCabe '17, Kevin Rooney '02, Mike Just '02 and Connor Kolich '17 share a moment after the presentation



# CONNECTIONS

## 1990

**JAY WEBBER** met his wife Johanna at Harvard Law. They have seven children and he has his own law firm, Webber McGill LLC. He was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Academic All-American for Johns Hopkins baseball. His father, Jim, is a proud grandpa and enjoys reading *Knightlines*.

## 1995

Visit pages 14-15 for a feature story on **CHRIS KASPER** as he continues his career in music with an ongoing tour and a new album due this May.

## 2002

**MIKE DEANGELIS** and his wife Mary Jo recently welcomed a daughter, Alessandra Elena. Congratulations!

**MIKE JUST** published his new book *Just Baseball: A Practical, Down-to-Earth Guide to the World of Baseball*. It is available through Amazon.com.

**JOE MEGARIOTIS** was selected as a 2017 New Jersey Rising Star by Super Lawyers for the second consecutive year. He is a litigation attorney focused on franchise and hospitality sectors and civil litigation defense.

**KEVIN ROONEY** and his wife Heidi welcomed their first child, McKenna Paige, on March 30.

## 2003

**PHIL MCCARTIN** and his wife, Amy, welcomed their daughter Hildie Grace to the world on April 1 at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

## 2005

**DAVIN DE SANTIS** is the Production Stage Manager for *Miss Saigon* at The Broadway Theatre.

**ANDREW GIULIANI** was hired in the Office of Public Liaison and Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House. Giuliani is engaged to Zivile Rezgyte after proposing on a trip to visit her family in Lithuania.

**DEVIN** and **JASON MCCOURTY** each welcomed a new baby daughter this spring. Kai Lee was born to Jason and his wife, Melissa, on February 28. She is the couple's third child (all daughters). Devin and his wife, Michelle, welcomed their first, Londyn Brielle, on March 11.

**DOUG MILLER** recently got engaged to Heather Monroe. Both are professional wrestlers based in California.

## 2006

**BOBBY ANTONICELLO** married Leah Zaccane in a ceremony in Charleston, SC on July 4, 2016. Leah is originally from Franklin Lakes and the couple met in college. They reside in Jersey City where Bobby owns a real estate development company.

**DAVE TEDESCO** and his wife, Jeannette, celebrated the birth of their first daughter, Irin Elena, on December 3. They currently live in Falls Church, VA.

## 2009

**NICHOLAS BUONAROTA** earned his master's degree in Game Design and Development from the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). He began working for IBM in Poughkeepsie in November 2016.

## Selflessness *Joseph Lobban '98*

**JOSEPH LOBBAN** is the manager of the newly opened homeless shelter, The Lodge, at the Fayetteville (NC) Area Operation Inasmuch. The shelter is designed to help men get jobs and get back on their feet.

An Army man, Lobban spent much of his career based at Fort Bragg while deployments sent him to Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan, on humanitarian and combats missions.

Lobban struggled after returning from Afghanistan in 2013.

"I came back a lost soul," he said.

His wife, Martha, and three children, supported him and he eventually rediscovered his faith.

"If it wasn't for God, I don't think I would have ever been diagnosed with PTSD," Lobban suggested. "I don't think I would ever have received treatment."

"Now I want to continue serving people just as selflessly as I did while I was in the Army, and to help the people that need to be helped."

- Excerpted from FayObserver.com





## Two Green Knights On Opening Day Rosters

**TOMMY LA STELLA '07** and **PATRICK KIVLEHAN '08** each earned a spot on an opening day roster for the 2017 Major League Baseball season. La Stella, who earned a World Series ring with the Chicago Cubs last season, will look to help the North Siders defend their 2016 title. Kivlehan, pictured, polished off last season, his first in the majors, with the Cincinnati Reds and stuck with the team after an impressive spring training.

## In Memoriam

### Alumni

**JIM SCHANCK '72**

**THOMAS SKROBALA '75**

**CHRIS SALCEDO '87**

### Family Members

**LLOYD BOSCA**

Father of Clinton Bosca '06

**VINCENZINA MAZZA GRECO**

Mother of Silvana Maugeri, Grandmother of Renzo '93 and Peter '94 Maugeri

**IRMGARD LUKMANN**

Grandmother of Alex Lukmann '17

**FRANKLIN OLIVEIRA**

Grandfather of Daniel Oliveira '18

**MARIE RAU**

Grandmother of Chris Pasinski '17

**MARY SIMONELLI**

Mother of Matthew Bush '14

## 2011

**STEVEN DOYLE** is graduating from the University of Alabama Huntsville with a master's in Aerospace Systems Engineering. He will begin medical school at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine in July.

**ANTHONY LAURIA** recently graduated from the NYPD Police Academy.

**MIKE RYAN** is graduating from the New School with a master's in Sociology.

## 2014

Cadet **CHARLES DEWEY**, who is on a National Guard scholarship at the Virginia Military Institute, studied in Paris last spring. He will be working on his senior honors thesis this summer. He also plays for VMI's hockey team. Dewey was surprised by **CRAIG BABCOCK '11** and **LT. LUKE BIJELIC '11**, in December for his Ring Figure ceremony.



**CHRIS FARRELL**, an acting major, was named to the Dean's List in Ithaca College's School of Humanities and Sciences for the fall 2016 semester.

## 2015

Read pages 8-9 for a feature on **ERIC** and **LUKAS BASKAYAN** as they assist SJR Robotics in the 2016-17 season.

**MATT ZOVISTOSKI** (Appalachian State) won the Southern Conference Wrestling title, which qualified him for the DI NCAA championship in St. Louis.

## Faculty/Staff

Athletic Director **TONY KARCICH** was recognized by the Bateman Education Foundation with its Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2017 Coaches Clinic, co-hosted by Rutgers University and the NJ Football Coaches Association.

**FRANK INGRASIOTTA**, SJR's theater director, appeared in the short film, *Figs for Italo*. The film won twelve awards at National and International Film Festivals including Best Dramatic Short, Best Cinematography and Best Costumes.



## SJR UNICO Chapter Open to Alumni as well as Students

As has been highlighted on these pages in the past, SJR is home to the first-ever high school chapter of UNICO. UNICO, with its motto "Service Above Self," is the largest Italian-American service organization in the country.

While the chapter is still going strong from a student perspective, it is also open to our alumni. Anyone interested in joining should visit [www.sjrunico.org](http://www.sjrunico.org) or contact membership chairman Frank Masella at [FrankMasella@aol.com](mailto:FrankMasella@aol.com).

Chapter meetings are usually the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the SJR Faculty Dining Room. The executive board meets one hour prior to general meetings.

# SAINT JOSEPH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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## Upcoming Events

On the Road: DC                      September 10  
Homecoming                              October 14-15  
Casino Night                              October 21

Stay tuned for more information as the following classes celebrate milestone reunions this fall!

1967	50 years	1972	45 years
1977	40 years	1982	35 years
1987	30 years	1992	25 years
1997	20 years	2002	15 years
2007	10 years	2012	5 years

SJR is implementing a new alumni Class Rep program to assist in strengthening relations with feedback directly from our alumni. Looking for 2-3 reps from each class to serve as liaisons, assist in event/reunion planning, share classmates' life events and moderate class social networking groups. If interested, please contact Scott Donnelly at [donnelys@sjrnj.org](mailto:donnelys@sjrnj.org) or 201-391-3300 x230.

If your address or email changes,  
please email [sjralumni@sjrnj.org](mailto:sjralumni@sjrnj.org).

