

THE GAEI

Celebrating Eighty Years of Catholic Education

A Newsletter for St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic Alumni

Vol. 2/Spring 2005

SISTERS INDUCTED into Kennedy Hall of Fame

Record Turnout for Alumni Dinner Dance

The eightieth anniversary of the founding of John F. Kennedy Catholic High School continued on April 7 with a fabulous dinner dance held at the Villa Barone in Mahopac. The Sisters of the Divine Compassion, the backbone of St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic, were inducted into the Kennedy Hall of Fame. Over two hundred and fifty alumni, parents and friends joined in the celebration.

John Gould, Class of '62, inducted

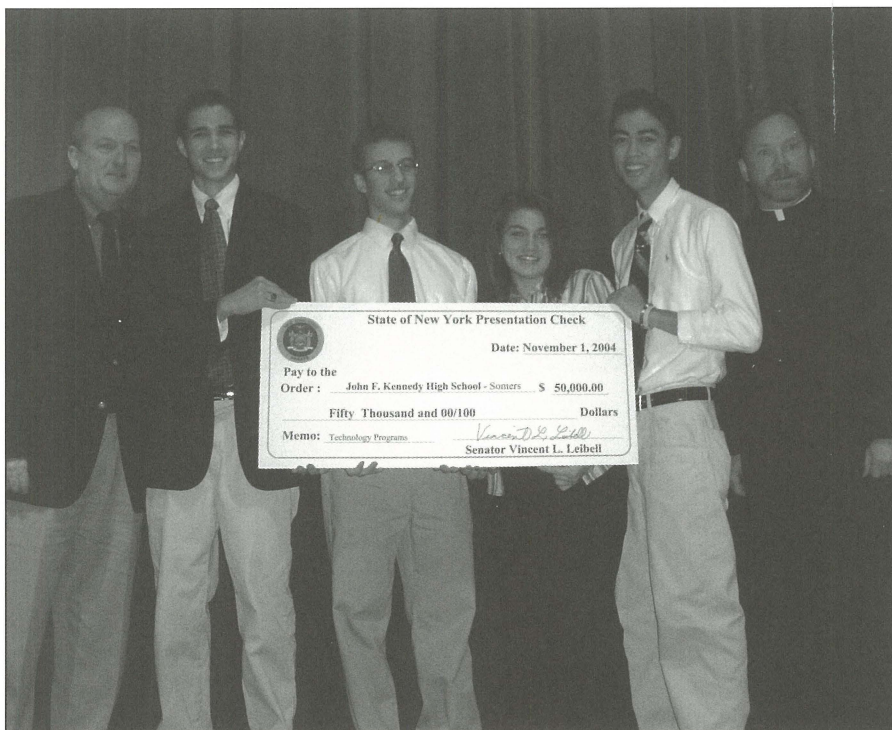
twenty-four Sisters into the Hall of Fame and presented each with a picture frame gift. Present at the dinner were Sr. Mary Caroline, Sr. Maria Teresa DeBourbon, Sr. Barbara Heil, Sr. Celesta Kelley, Sr. Janet Meehan, Sr. Marie Murphy, Sr. Mary Christopher, Sr. Theresa Young, Sr. Alice Conrad, Sr. Jane Keegan, Sr. Mary Theresa Kelley, Sr. Mary Alice Reimer and Sr. Alice Shannon. Those not able to attend, but were still mentioned and given a gift,

were Sr. Freda Burns, Sr. Mary Gonzaga Hickey, Sr. Carol Peterson, Sr. Mary Charlotte Brennan, Sr. Annette Champigny, Sr. Madeline Desel, Sr. Susan Greene and Sr. Dolores Mascali.

The evening tribute began with a presentation by Director of Guidance Robert Schwarz to the top fourteen members of the Class of 2005 with a Certificate of Excellence. The seniors were chosen based on their outstanding academic records, extracurricular involvement and community service, exemplifying the mission of Kennedy Catholic.

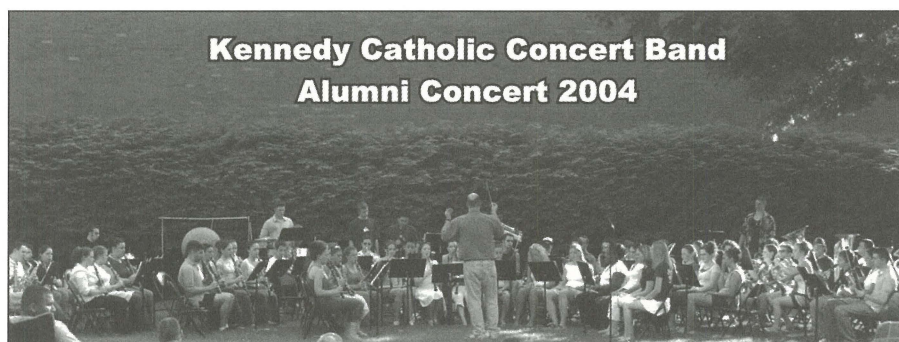
Mark your calendars now as plans are already underway for the 2006 annual dinner dance next April. More information will be sent later this year.





KCHS AWARDED \$50,000 TECHNOLOGY GRANT

State Senator Vincent Liebell brought good news to Kennedy this past November, announcing that it had been named the recipient of a \$50,000 technology grant from New York State. During a formal visit on November 1, Student Council Vice President Tricia Watson '05 presented the Senator with a gift basket full of Kennedy memorabilia as a token of the school's appreciation. The grant will be used to offset the cost of upgrading Kennedy's computer infrastructure.



ANNUAL ALUMNI BAND CONCERT

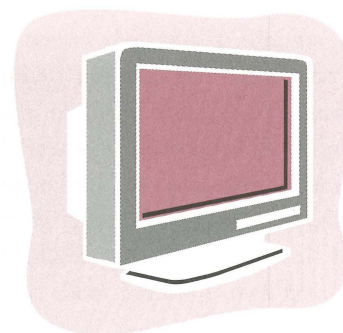
The Fourth Annual John F. Kennedy Catholic High School Alumni Band Concert will be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2005. With last year's amazing alumni attendance, the Band is eager to seek out any and all band alumni for this year's event.

The schedule of events will be: alumni meeting at 3 p.m. in the high school auditorium to rehearse, an informal (pizza) dinner in the cafeteria for all the alumni at 4:30 p.m. followed by the concert at 6 p.m. The performance will be outside; in the event of rain, the concert will be moved to the auditorium.

If you are an alumnus interested in participating, please contact Mr. Gray at (914) 232-5061 ext. 132 or JFKBandDirector@aol.com.

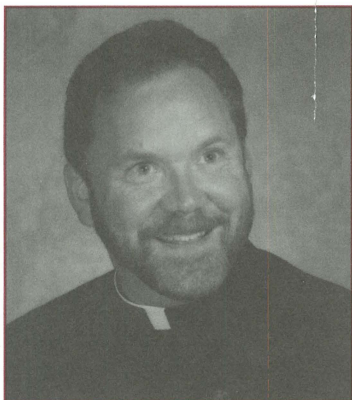
If you are not a former band member, but still would like an enjoyable evening of music and friendship with other Kennedy alumni and friends, please join us.

Don't forget your lawn chairs!!!



COMPUTER LAB 120

The Computer Lab at Kennedy Catholic has been completely upgraded with new computer hardware and software, and refurbished with computer office furniture. With the generous assistance of alumnus Chris Mertens, the school acquired 20 new Hewlett Packard personal computers with enhanced processing power for students studying Computer Applications and Programming courses. A New York State educational software grant enabled Kennedy Catholic to acquire the most recent version of the MS Office Suite. Another worthy note: Mrs. Karen Symons, one of our parents, put the school in contact with Amica Insurance, which donated comfortable computer office chairs.



HEADMASTER'S Address

"Celebrating 80 years of educating leaders with Courage and Compassion" has been our triumphant theme throughout this school year. "Courage and compassion" is the ideal under which the Sisters of the Divine Compassion have guided St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic High School. We began our celebration in September with a visit from Cardinal Egan and concluded the year in climatic fashion at an April dinner dance honoring the Sisters of Divine Compassion with our Hall of Fame Award. The evening at Villa Barone in Mahopac, N.Y., brimmed with excitement as the room filled with over 230 guests who reminisced with stories from St. Mary's days or times at Kennedy Catholic. In common was affirmation and praise for the outstanding job the Sisters have done as educators and role models over these many years.

Guests came from as far away as Rhode Island. Mr. John Gould (St. Mary's Class of 1962) presented the Awards to each Sister who served at St. Mary's and/or Kennedy Catholic. Some of the Sisters could not attend, but Sr. Mary Gonzaga, at 101 years old, sent a wonderful note saying she was praying for us all. All the Sisters embody the inspiration, spirit and life of our school community. The evening's festivities were an expression of our gratefulness for everything these wonderful women have given and continue to do for so many. Indeed, we are most fortunate to have nine Sisters who still serve daily in the school. We pray that they will remain a constant and vibrant part of the St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic community.

Fourteen members of the Class of 2005 were honored with certificates of excellence. These students exemplify, in word and deed, the fruits of the Sisters' labor, the evolution of their mission as educators! We congratulate these newest graduates who will be attending some of the top colleges and universities in the country. The prayers of the entire Kennedy community are with each of them as they take their place in the alumni community.

We are excited about our upcoming events being planned for the next few months. Reunions for classes celebrating 50 and 25 years will be held soon. The annual golf outing is scheduled for October; a save-the-date card will be sent out in the next few weeks. Next year's Hall of Fame Dinner will be in April of 2006, and we look forward to seeing many of you at these events over the next year. More details can be ascertained about all our upcoming events by calling the Development Office at school or visiting our website - www.kennedycatholic.org.

Please remember that each of you is always welcome to visit the school anytime. Be assured of our continued prayers for all our alumni/alumnae, both the living and deceased. May Mary, the Mother of God, and Our Lord Jesus Christ protect us all now and always.

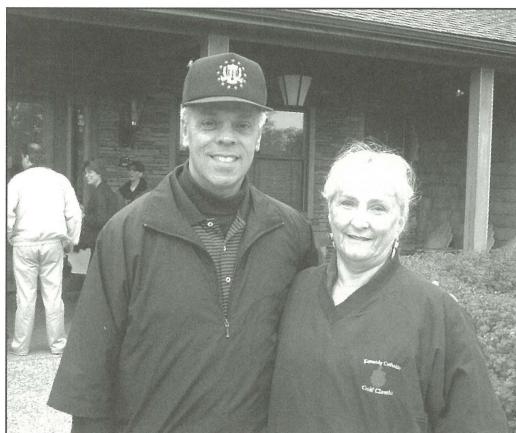
Sincerely in Christ

Fr. Stephen P. Norton

Fr. Stephen P. Norton
Headmaster

CASTLE OIL SPONSORS 2004 GOLF OUTING

Thanks to the generosity of the Castle Oil Corporation and the enthusiasm of our parent volunteers and alumni, the first annual KCHS Golf Classic enjoyed a great tee-off at the Brandon Woods Golf Club this past fall. Despite cloudy skies, over one hundred and thirty golfers had a great time. A special thanks goes to Kevin Dwyer '72 for all of his effort and guidance in the planning of this great event. If you would like to join the Golf Committee for 2005, please contact the Development Office. Duffers welcome!



DID YOU HEAR FROM HARRIS PUBLISHING?

Over the past academic year, the Alumni and Development Departments have been trying to update the databases with the help of Harris Publishing. You may have received a letter or phone call from Harris Publishing asking you personal information about your current job, educational level, etc. Harris is in the process of putting together an Alumni Directory which they may have offered to sell to you for a fee. This is a great way to network your business or connect with old friends from Kennedy days. Please be assured that you have the right to say no to any questions that they may ask; there is no obligation to give personal information or to buy the directory from them.

We want to hear from you as well; please contact us either by email (alumni@kennedycatholic.org) or by phone (914-232-5061 ext. 118) and let us know more about you. Tell us about

your accomplishments, your children and how your experiences at Kennedy Catholic have influenced your adult life.

52 FROM '52

Skip Ahnemann '70 and his wife, Lu Gallacher '72, hosted a party last September for both of their respective Kennedy Catholic graduating classes. The cause/justification (not that they needed one) was that Lu's class was all turning 50 years old in 2004 and Skip's class was all turning 52 and were born in 1952, hence their 52 from '52 theme. This was not the first, and undoubtedly not the last, time these classes celebrated together. In 2002 they had a combined party at the Ahnemann's house to celebrate the class of 1970 turning 50 years old and the class of 1972's thirtieth reunion. Although there were many repeat attendees at both parties, there were also some newcomers. Anthony Casella and Fr. Norton stopped by to visit and meet everyone.

All of the attendees agreed that their

experience at Kennedy was a bond they will have forever. People traveled from near and far to attend the gathering in Stamford, CT. Friends gathered from Katonah and Saratoga, CA, Hopewell Junction and Rhode Island, Rochester and Corolla, NC. Members of the class of '70 included: Paul Smith, Ed Bender, Chuck Weth, John Mitchell, Gail O'Brien, Joe Bailey, Frank Herbert, Diane Errico, Kathy Powers, Jim Donohue, Nancy Ryan, Joe Cloherty, Dennis Paterno, John Tomaskovic, Pete Tavino, Rory Lee and Ken Kraft. Representing the class of '72 were Tom and Eileen (Boylan) McGrath, Glen and Maureen (Mulligan) Karoglanian, Larry '71 and Kay (McQuade) Tracy, Steve and Audrey (Kraft) Falkowski, Fred Round, Peter Boccagna, Rick Gennett, Diane (Braun) Hanley, Barbara Delzio, Warren and Susan Lucas, and Paul Gallagher. Other attendees included Brian 'Coach' McCabe '71, Steve Delzio '71, Jim Monzrt '68, and Fran (Gallacher) Walsh '73.



SPOTLIGHT ON: David A. Ranghelli '87

David is currently working on a documentary about a group of priests from the Padre Philip order who are working down in Peru. His goal is to complete this film about those who embrace the call of God and, as a consequence, sow the seeds for human compassion, harmony and hope. KCHS would like to extend its thanks to him for working on such a worthy endeavor. For information on how you could help David achieve his goal, please contact the alumni office.

SAVE THESE dates!

OCTOBER 6

2005 Kennedy Catholic Golf Classic

OCTOBER 15

Homecoming BBQ 12 noon - 3:00 p.m.

OCTOBER 15

2005 Reunions Classes of '60, '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95 & '00

APRIL 20

2006 Kennedy Catholic Awards Dinner

NEW FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Change and action are perhaps the best words to describe the 2004-2005 year at KCHS, especially in the Development Office. In addition to our inaugural newsletters, homecoming reunion, golf classic and dinner dance, there are some other noticeable changes evident at KCHS.

One such change is the newly designed Web site, thanks to Matthew Walker, Class of 1993. If you haven't already done so, check it out at www.kennedycatholic.org. It's awesome!

There is new welcome signage to greet all those who enter the main foyer, and currently under production, a new stone sign for the front of the school. It is a gift from the Class of 2005 as part of the senior class drive in memory of Nolan Morales, a classmate who died late 2004 from leukemia. The new marker will be significantly larger and list the names of the Class of 2005 on the back.

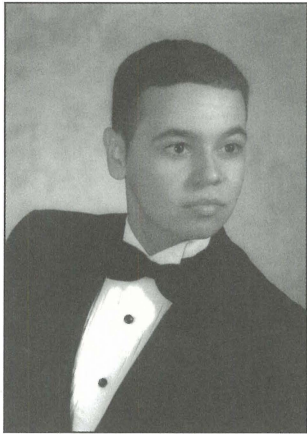
To all our alumni and friends, we extend an invitation to join us as we embrace the wonderful changes ahead. Please lend us your expertise, experience and wisdom. Together we can create a wonderful future for John F. Kennedy Catholic High School.



THE WIZARD OF OZ

A Magical Performance

The KCHS Theater Group's production of The Wizard of Oz was an outstanding success. The show ran for two weekends and included a special performance for local parochial elementary schools. More than 70 Kennedy students participated in the show.



SAYING GOODBYE IS DIFFICULT

It is always hard to witness someone pass away, but this year the untimely death of senior Nolan Morales deeply touched the entire school community. Nolan was more than a student here at Kennedy Catholic; he was the model of a good Catholic, someone who taught us all to love and appreciate every moment we have.

On January 18, 2005, the entire student body and faculty attended Nolan's funeral at St. James Parish in Carmel, NY. It is in his honor that the senior class has created a memorial which will replace the old John F. Kennedy Catholic welcome sign in the entrance to the school. Although the words will remain the same on the front, the rear will have a photo of Nolan with all of the names of his classmates. Nolan was everything a Kennedy Catholic student should be, and everyone will surely miss his kind and thoughtful manner.

2005 ART SHOW

2005 has been a stellar year for the art department here at Kennedy Catholic. The art show, which was showcased with the drama department's delightful production of *The Wizard of Oz*, was the biggest and best in years. The display triptychs were arranged to highlight the artistic talents of our senior students, while the new wooden furniture and silk plants added a professional atmosphere as well as a pleasant place to sit and admire the art work.

Many were impressed with the obvious talent and professional quality



KENNEDY CATHOLIC ON SPRING BREAK IN GREECE

This past Spring break in April, a group of twenty-seven Kennedy Catholic students, along with Mr. Steve Schmidt, assistant headmaster, Mr. Rob Schwartz, director of guidance, Dr. Nancy Dellamonte of the science department and Fr. Jim Teague, the school chaplain, traveled to the ancient country of Greece where the ages and history are cherished.

The excursion was a fascinating trip through the Greek islands aboard a cruise ship with ports of call in the resort island of Mykanos and Crete, where we walked the streets of the ancient city of Ephesus. Ephesus was the city in which St. Paul wrote his letter to the Ephesians. There was also a call in Santorini before returning back to Athens. Santorini is the island with the lapis blue water of the Aegean Sea and the whitewashed houses built into the hillside, seen in many of the tourist pictures of Greece. The island is a dormant volcano and the harbor is actually its crater.

The final leg of the excursion was to return to the city of Athens, where the students hiked the hill of the Athens Acropolis and the rock that overlooked the city where St. Paul preached to the people of Athens, convincing them to reform from their belief in "many gods" to the one true God. The final day was spent in the countryside of Greece, where the group traveled to the ruins of the ancient city of Delphi. In Delphi, some of the artifacts and remains date to the sixth century before Christ! In Greece, what is ancient is forever young!

of the student work. Part of the exhibit travelled to White Plains to the Good Council Convent, Motherhouse of the Sisters of the Divine

Compassion, the weekend of April 22 to help honor the hundredth anniversary of the death of their foundress, Mother Mary Veronica Starr.



SENIOR AWARDS

Top Row: Joseph Davin, Bernard Zipprich, Joseph Pirraglia, Adam Rodriquez, Patrick O'Gara, Matthew Maher and Christian Rivera. Bottom Row: Patricia Watson, Megan Taverna, Katherine Kozlowski, Mary Vitale, Christina Healy, Diana Berisha and Kathryn Girolamo.

SEVENTY-SIX AND COUNTING

Since our inception in 1924, over 13,000 alumni have graced the halls of St. Mary's/Kennedy Catholic High School. The class of 2005 - all 109 of them - will be the 76th class inducted into our alumni family. With an average 1146 SAT score and over \$3,000,000 in scholarships to select colleges, this class is certainly one of the more notable groups that Kennedy has seen.

"This senior class is one of the strongest group of student leaders that I have ever had," said Director of Guidance Robert Schwartz, in his fifth year at Kennedy. "They are also the most charitable when involved in fundraisers," said Schwartz, referring to \$10,000 raised through Student Government for local charities and student-sponsored events. That number continues to grow as the Senior Gift Drive - with a total goal of \$8,000 - is underway. With the monies, the students intend to leave as their last gift a new granite entrance sign for KCHS. Included with their names chiseled on the back will be a memorial tribute to their deceased classmate, Nolan Morales.

CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP TRADITION CONTINUED

The 2004 Boys and Girls Cross Country teams continued the tradition of winning with a perfect 5-0 league and 7-0 perfect season. The boys were led by Luke Mannion, a junior, who won every dual meet race.

The girls were led by Laura Cloherty, who completed the season with a very successful record, as well. Both teams did very well at the League Championships. This year, Kennedy Catholic will graduate 6 seniors from

the team who will be hard to replace. They are: Mike Visovsky, Fred Griffiths, Andrew Donovan, Bernie Zipprich, Amanda Schwenk and Christina Shipor

VARSITY BASKETBALL

The defending State and Federation Champion Varsity Boys' Basketball team ended the year with a 23-4 record, making it all the way to the New York State Final Four before losing to Carle Place of Long Island. The Gaels went undefeated in the league and won the Section I title and both the regional games, earning them a right to make it back to Glens Falls. Led by captain Matt Maher, Tyrell Thompson and Danny O'Connell, the Gaels have only lost one game in two years to Class B – completing an incredible 40-1 against B schools. Although Matt Maher, Joe Weldon, Mick Warncke, Tyler Tripodi, Greg Robstad and Pat O'Gara will be graduating this year, the Gaels will look to win a 3rd straight league and section title and return for an unprecedented 3rd consecutive time to the NYS Final Four thanks to the talent of Tyrell Thompson, Danny O'Connell, Devin Brown and Chris Caputi.

All- League Honors

Matt Maher '05
Dan O'Connell '06
Tyrell Thompson '06

All-Section Honors

Dan O'Connell '06
Tyrell Thompson '06

MVP of Class B Tournament

Matt Maher '05

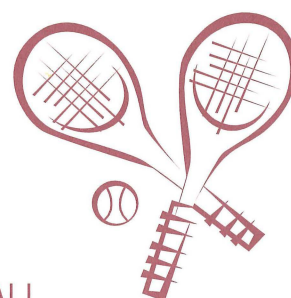
All State Honors

Tyrell Thompson '06 – 1st Team
Dan O'Connell '06 – 5th Team
Matt Maher '05 – 7th Team



HARLEM MAGIC MASTERS Come to KCHS

On February 12, Kennedy alumni, parents and faculty members joined forces to become the Kennedy All-Stars and competed against the tricked-out team of highfliers that we know simply as the Harlem Magic Masters. The Masters are made up of past NBA and NCAA all-stars who performed amazing tricks during this fun-filled event that included intense dunks, crazy street ball moves and even a few hilarious moments of comic relief. What really made this match-up special was everyone's opportunity to see the incredible skills and "groovy" dance moves that were unleashed by the Kennedy All-Stars. The successful fundraiser raised enough money to purchase the scoreboard, and approximately \$700 for the Nolan Morales Scholarship Fund.



GIRLS' FALL TENNIS TEAM SUCCESS

The 2004 Girls' Varsity Tennis Team powered through the season to become league champions, a goal the girls set for themselves the very first day of practice last August. They worked hard to improve and hone their skills. In the end, they were victorious.

Several members of the 2004 team moved on to play in a match to determine sectional players. The competition was fierce; the girls gave it their all, with senior Linnae Goswami advancing to the Sectional tournament. The 2004 team set a very high bar for the upcoming season!

ALUMNI NEWS

We want to hear from you! Please fax (914-232-3416), email (alumni@kennedycatholic.org) or phone (914-232-5061 ext.118) in news about you to share with your classmates. Here is a list of notes that fellow alumni/alumnae shared with us from our Web site since our last newsletter:

1979

Chris Epting, has written seven books on history and travel, as well many articles for different publications around the world. He has written for the past 20 years.

1981

Lorraine Ralph Bradshaw, married to David Bradshaw with two children, Max and Sophie.

1986

Dr. Eric De Sena, currently an assistant professor of Classical Archaeology in Rome, Italy, where he teaches as an adjunct for Loyola University Chicago's Rome Center, Saint Mary's College Rome Program and John Cabot University.

1987

Jenifer (O'Keefe) Moffre, living in Westerlo, NY, with her husband, Peter, their little boy, Pete, and 2 chocolate labs named Mad Max and Crazy Cleo.

She is a Registered Dietitian and works for the New York State Office for the Aging as an Aging Nutrition Consultant.

1989

Christine Sheridan Brown, married with two children; Christian (9) and Caitlin (7)

Christine Murphy, currently a Vice President at Brown Advisory after working at UBS since 1999 and, prior to that, Alex Brown.

1997

Julie Popken, currently working as a Senior Content Artist at Fisher-Price. She will be married on October 1st of 2005 in East Aurora, NY.

Tamara Pastor, currently living in Harrison and working in White Plains. Graduated from Purchase College with a BA in Psychology and a certificate in Early Childhood Education.

1998

Chrissy Dillon, currently finishing medical school and is engaged to John Macken from Rye, NY. He is an Assistant Vice President at Sumitomo Banking Corporation. The wedding will be April 29, 2006, in New Hampshire.

Diana Mejias, currently finishing her third year at Pace University in Manhattan as a Doctoral Candidate in School - Clinical Psychology.

Gregory Miller, graduated from SUNY Albany in 2002 and entered into active duty with the United States Air Force. Currently flying C-21A aircraft at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois. Happily married to Jennifer Bernfield from Yorktown Heights, who is also serving in the Air Force at Scott Air Force Base.

2000

Sarah Guidotti, currently living in Hawaii teaching special education at Holomau Elementary school. Has taken up surfing to pass the time and lives with her dog, Lilo.

CLASS REUNIONS UNDERWAY – NEW DATE OCTOBER 15TH

With the help of the Alumni and Development Departments, Alumni Committee members are in the process of organizing reunions for the following years: '60, '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95 and 2000. The reunion was originally scheduled for this coming June, but was rescheduled for October 15 due to the high number of graduations, weddings, baptisms and other important events that we all encounter during the summer months. Please let us know if you'd like to help organize these events for your class.

INFORMATION update

Do you have any news? Have you moved? Let us know!

email: alumni@kennedycatholic.org • call: 914-232-5061 • fax: 914-232-3416

Name _____ Class _____

Married Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Alumni E-Mail Address _____

BUSINESS INFORMATION

Business _____ Position _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ E-Mail Address _____

Alumni Class Notes _____

Alumnus: if you have news about your family or your job, please let us know. If you are moving, please let us know your new address. **Parents:** If your son/daughter no longer maintains a permanent residence at your home, please send us his/her new address. We would like to keep both parents and sons/daughters in touch with Kennedy Catholic. Please check below to continue receiving *The Gael*.

☐ Please keep me on the mailing list. My son's/daughter's new address is listed below

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

**Kennedy Catholic HIGH SCHOOL
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE**

54 Route 138 • Somers, NY 10589

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