

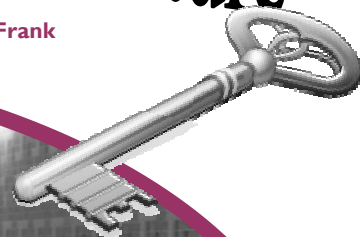


# Nazareth Academy Grade School

OUR MISSION IS FAMILY

## The Keys to Character Unlock the Future

*"Parents can only give good advice or put children on the right path, but the final forming of a person's character lies in their own hands." ~ Anne Frank*



*A big year awaits Grade 3 as they prepare for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion*

*Responsibility, Compassion, Citizenship, Respect and Honesty.* Those are a few of the many character traits that Nazareth Academy Grade School is focusing on during the 2008-2009 school year. Throughout the course of the year, students will learn that recognizing and respecting different values and beliefs of others, displaying high regard for rules and government, as well as being thoughtful and considerate, help in developing one's character and sense of self.

*"We believe that the strong character foundation upon which our children are building will sustain them far beyond high school and college,"* stated Sr. Mary Ann Allton, CSFN, Principal. Sister explained, *"In addition to their parents' guidance, students learn how to strengthen their character through the curriculum, through the example of our faculty and by partaking in service learning projects."*

Each day, students will be reminded by a colorful banner dis-

played in the lobby that *"The Keys to Character Unlock the Future."* The banner was thoughtfully designed and hand painted by *Maggie Culp, '92.* We appreciate Maggie's efforts in sharing her creativity once again with the school. This is the third banner she has donated to the school.



As this theme is woven through the school's activities this year, you will also find it throughout this issue of our *Newsletter.* Take a moment to read about the First Grade's Service Project to collect books for Our Lady of Confidence School, our continued support of St. Francis Inn, our Aid for Friends initiative and the Seventh and Eighth Grade Service Projects for the elderly.

Our faculty continues to create an inspiring environment that promotes excellence in education and *excellence in character.* *God gave our students the amazing ability to dream, and with the right skills, they can do more than just dream big dreams, they can achieve them!*

Dear Friends of Nazareth Academy Grade School,

Nazareth Academy Grade School is committed to teaching its students not only the skills of “reading, writing, and arithmetic,” but also the spiritual and moral values that foster the development of each child’s God-given gifts and talents. These gifts and talents enable him/her to become trustworthy contributors to society. Knowledge is important, but truth be told, few people reflect on how much a person knows until they know how much a person cares! Reflection on Scripture at the beginning of each school day teaches us about Jesus values and how we can make Him known in our world by our care, love, forgiveness, and service. “The Keys to Character” are integral in “Unlocking the Future” for our students!



At left, Sr. Mary Ann and second grade students Abigail Hague and Anthony Pantalone. Moments before, Sister seized the opportunity to help Anthony tie his shoes.



I am indebted to our many parents, grandparents, alumni, and friends of NAGS who model spiritual and moral values to our children, particularly in the many ways they provide service to others. In a society that often focuses on the “me, myself, and I” syndrome, it is crucial that we become prophetic witnesses of God’s love through our service to those most in need. As you read through the pages of this *Newsletter*, you will be amazed at the many ways our students are discovering that they *can* and *do* make a difference in our society and world!

I offer you my heartfelt gratitude for supporting Nazareth Academy Grade School in any and all ways. We have accomplished much and look forward to accomplishing more in the future. As our primary “PR” representatives, won’t you help us in spreading the good news that NAGS is the “best kept secret in Northeast Philly?” May God bless you, and may your Christmas be blessed and your New Year be a happy and holy one!



Sincerely,  
*Sister Mary Ann Allton, CSFM*

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Below: Money bags! Above Sr. Aurelia and Sr. Anita are off to the bank's coin counter!





## Newsletter

**Sister Martin Duffy, CSFN**, President  
**Sister Mary Ann Allton, CSFN**, Principal

.....

**Patricia McGarvey**, Development Director,  
 Editor & Designer, *Newsletter*

To submit articles, updates and photos, contact: Pat at  
**215-637-7777, Ext. 206 ~ FAX: 215-637-5696**  
 or e-mail: [nagsalumni@aol.com](mailto:nagsalumni@aol.com)

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**Photos in this issue by**  
**Pat McGarvey, unless otherwise noted.**  
 We're on the web! Go to:  
[www.nazarethacademy.net](http://www.nazarethacademy.net)

# NIGHT ON BROADWAY

## 10th Annual Silent Auction

The Parents' Association  
Cordially invites you to  
Nazareth Academy Grade School's  
**NIGHT ON BROADWAY**  
on Saturday, March 21, 2009  
at  
The Black Lake Room  
2706 Black Lake Place, Phila., PA 19154  
6:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.  
\$40 per person  
*Includes Buffet, Wine, Beer, Soda*

***Please help support our annual fundraising event!*** This affair is an opportunity to bring parents, alumni and friends of Nazareth together to support our school financially while having a great time. ***All proceeds will benefit the educational needs of our children.***

To make our Auction a success, ***we are asking for your help in the form of a donation*** that can be used for our Silent and Live Auction. Some examples of past donations include gift certificates, gift cards, hotel stays, sports memorabilia, tickets to events, electronics, etc. Various ***Sponsorships***, listed at right, are also available.

Our families at Nazareth are very appreciative to all of our donors! Your donations will be recognized in our ***Ad Book*** which will be distributed that evening to all of our guests. Please know how grateful we would be for your assistance with our ***10th Annual event!***

***For additional information, please contact:***

*Vince and Patty D'Andrea, Auction Chairs,  
The Auction Committee, or  
Donna Rueter, Ad Book Chair*

Reservation and Donor Forms & Ad Book and Sponsorship Forms available online at [www.nazarethacademy.net](http://www.nazarethacademy.net). See link on our home page!

### ***Be a Sponsor!***

#### **ORCHESTRA LEVEL**

**Live Auction Sponsor \$2,000**

Includes print recognition on the invitation  
Four event tickets, Full page Ad in Program Book  
Recognition in all Press Releases  
Recognition at the event

#### **FIRST MEZZANINE**

**Grand Prize Sponsor \$1,000**

Includes print recognition on the invitation  
Two event tickets, Full page Ad in Program Book  
Recognition in all Press Releases  
Recognition at the event

#### **SECOND MEZZANINE**

**Publicity Sponsor \$500**

Includes print recognition on the invitation  
Two event tickets, Half page Ad in Program Book  
Recognition in all Press Releases  
Recognition at the event

#### **THIRD MEZZANINE**

**Entertainment Sponsor \$250**

Includes print recognition on the invitation  
Quarter page Ad in Program Book  
Recognition in all Press Releases  
Recognition at the event

**\$100 Sponsorship Opportunities are available.  
Please call the school for more information.**



# Class Notes



In the 1997 N.A.G.S. yearbook, Paul Durrant, '97, stated that his goal was to be a "Writer, Director." Paul has proven that with hard work and determination, *dreams really do come true!*

After high school, Paul and his family moved to Arizona, where he majored in film at the University of Arizona. Paul is now a News Photojournalist for *KOLD NEWS 13*, a CBS-affiliated television station in Tucson, Arizona. Paul recently traveled back to the Philadelphia area for an in-depth photo story on Saint Katherine Drexel, pictured at left.

The second American born Saint was a philanthropist and business person who used her inheritance to support poor minorities, particularly Native Americans. Paul interviewed several individuals at *St. Katherine Drexel Mission Center and Shrine* in Bensalem, PA, who offered a glimpse of how St. Katherine stepped in to ensure that the Native Americans could receive a quality education. With the help of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament order, St. Katherine established sixty missions and schools around the country.

Paul was granted a rare opportunity to develop his story further at St. Michaels' Indian School, one of the schools founded by St. Katherine. The school is located on the Navajo Reservation, which covers 27,000 square miles in Arizona, Utah and New Mexico.

Pictured below left is "Window Rock," situated on the Reservation. Although the Navajo Reservation is the poorest in the United States, St. Michael's students believe the school has made an enormous impact on many generations of families since 1950. The school is proud that 90% of the students graduating pursue a post-secondary education. The pictures at left were telecast on the news feature by Paul Durrant.

*We congratulate Paul on his success and we look forward to seeing his work in the future!*



**1987**

Congratulations and best wishes to **Tina Stoklosa-Tomaszewski, '87**, and her husband Frank, pictured above, who welcomed their son into the world on August 4, 2008. Frankie weighed 7 lbs., 8 oz.!

**2000**

**Meghan Quinn** graduated from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA with a BA in Classics and Education concentration. Now certified in teaching Latin, Meghan is sharing her talents at Boys' Latin of Philadelphia

Charter School as a teacher and rowing coach.

**2003**

We wish the best of luck to **Lauren Goda** in her studies at University of Pennsylvania.

**2004**

**John Fischer**, upon his graduation from LaSalle High School, received the Distinguished Scholar and Achievement Awards. While at LaSalle, John was Editor of the *Gazebo Literary Magazine* in junior and senior year and was also Captain of the Bowling team. Congratulations to John, who is now studying for a Business and Computer major at Arcadia University.

**2004**

Congratulations to **Brian Bateman**, who was cast in the lead role in *The Navigator: A New Musical*, which will be performed at Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. The musical, based on a book by Kathleen Cahill, will be directed by Off-Broadway director Daniella Topol.



**2005**

*N.A.G.S. grads continue to develop their leadership skills!*

Congratulations to **Olivia Sharkey** who was elected President of Student Council and **Cara Cannon**, Treasurer, at Nazareth Academy High School.



Nazareth Academy High School Theater Department sponsored a presentation of "Anything Goes," a play featuring music by Cole Porter.

Alumni **Abby Nestel, '06**, **Kyra Krass, '07**, and **Rachel Stengel, '06**, were featured as Dancing Angels. **Michael Iannacone, '08**, lent his musical talents on the trombone. The orchestra conducted by

Mrs. Margaret Lafferty, also featured **Matthew Wajda, '07**, **Valerie Horvath, '04**, and **Jessica Mc Phillips, '08**.

Rounding out the cast of dancers were **Krysta DiKun, '07**. The chorus was highlighted by the vocal talents of **Laura Walker, '06**.

Assisting on the Stage Crew were **Laura Chinn, '05**, Lights Manager and **Amanda Penko, '07**, Crewmember.



Above: Second from left, **Samantha Talbot, '07**, a sophomore at St. Hubert's High School, visits with Sr. Martin, Sr. Anita and Sr. Mary Ann.



Above: **Keirstin Betz, '08**, and **Jessica McPhillips, '08**, got reacquainted with Sr. Martin and talked about their Freshman year at Nazareth Academy High School.



Congratulations to **Mrs. Maribeth Kane**, Seventh Grade teacher, and her husband Lenny, who welcomed **Nicholas Leonard Kane** into the world on September 12, 2008.

*Nicholas, pictured at left, weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz.!*

**Megan Rankin, '08**, and **Rose Cantu, '08**, pictured below, take the time to visit N.A.G.S. on a day off from St. Basil's Academy.



## In Memoriam

*Please join the NAGS community in remembering our beloved departed.*



**Robert J. Ashley, IV** - Son of Lauren Pollack-Ashley, former first grade teacher

**Norman Bozarth** - Grandfather of Megan Bozarth, Gr. 2, father of Mark Bozarth

**Charles J. Elkins** - Uncle of George Vaccarino, Gr. 7 and brother of Terry Vaccarino, Social Studies and Physical Education teacher

**Lou Frusco** - Grandfather of Maria, Gr. 8, and Dante Palantino, Gr. 5, father of Cheryl Palantino

**Shawn Negler** - Cousin of Michael Rossano, Gr. 3

**Catherine Novak** - Mother of Mrs. Cathy Achilles, Eighth Grade teacher

**Claire Slubowski** - Grandmother of Crystal Hardin '79 and Daphne, '81 and mother of Mrs. Dale Hardin

**Stan Smith** - Grandfather of Christina Salvato, Gr. 1, father of Lisa Salvato

**Maryann B. Strybuc** - Mother-in-law of Suzanne Mattson-Strybuc, '74, and Grandmother of Timothy Strybuc, '02

**Stephen Welsh** - Great uncle of Stephen, '07, and Anna Duzinski, '09

# N.A.G.S. COMMUNITY + CONNELLY FOUNDATION = *SUCCESS!*

Over the summer, the school was buzzing with activity to improve the classroom learning environment, upgrade the exterior of the building and improve the school's sewer connection. We are grateful for the kindness of the many alumni, alumni-parents, parents, grandparents, friends and students who supported the **2007 Annual Giving Fund Window Replacement Project**. In addition, we recognize the generosity of the Connelly Foundation for providing a grant of \$90,000.00 for the capital projects described below.



## WINDOW PROJECT: *Complete!*



The remaining Phases of the **Window Replacement Project** were completed on August 29, 2008 by Colory Metal and Glass, Inc. The entire school facility now features energy efficient Low-E glass windows that will enhance performance with lighting and maximize savings with reduced fuel consumption.

The total cost of the project was \$115,000.00. Completing this monumental task was made possible in part by the Connelly Foundation, as well as the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Nazareth Academy Grade School Parents' Association, and our alumni and friends.

We also recognize the substantial contributions of *Greg Mason, Jr. '89*, (pictured below right) and *Nicole Mason-Murphey, '88*, of Colory Metal and Glass, Inc.



*"The value of the lives affected by the generosity of the Connelly Foundation cannot be measured. The Foundation's support and focus on value-based education provides opportunities for Nazareth Academy Grade School students to extend their vision and make a difference in their community."*

~ Sr. Martin Duffy,  
CSFN

## SANITARY SYSTEM REPAIR: *Finished!*



To complete the second phase of repairs, originally begun in July, 2007 with the Connelly Foundation grant, Meco Constructors once again broke ground on August 5, 2008 to address several breaches in the school's plumbing.

Meco was up to the challenge in resolving several issues that have been a concern over the past several years. By August 22nd, a new connection was made to the clean-out, a new manhole was installed, and a rainwater downspout was excavated of a buildup of debris. Through subsequent videotaping, the school was informed that the pipes under the school were intact, which significantly reduced the cost of the work.

We sincerely appreciate the patience, advice and consideration of Andy Ebert and Fred Engel of Meco Constructors, Inc., as well as the skill and professionalism of the entire Meco crew. Their hard work and determination in discovering a detached fitting truly "paid off" for the school!

We also commend the efforts and involvement of Len Poncia, father of David, '08 and Marisa, '09, with this project.



The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program provides a tax credit to businesses that donate to non-profit scholarship organizations, such as The Bridge Foundation. In turn, the Foundation distributes tuition assistance to qualifying families, including those at Nazareth Academy Grade School.

On October 21, 2008, a \$117,500 check was presented to "Families of Northeast Philadelphia" at a news conference at St. Cecilia Elementary School. Sixteen schools will benefit from the funding.

Proudly stating that they all attended Catholic elementary schools, PA lawmakers Senator Tina Tartaglione (D-2nd dist.), state Rep. John Sabatina, Jr. (D-174th) and Rep. John Perzel (R-172nd dist.) are pleased that the EITC program is flourishing, yet encourage more business participation.

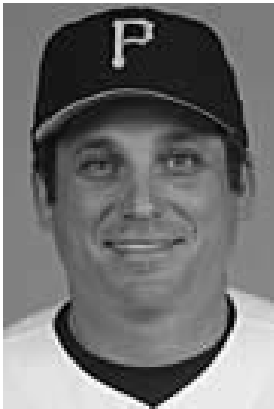
The program provides a dollar for dollar tax credit to businesses interested in helping parents send their child to the school of their choice. **For information in participating in the program and to help children at N.A.G.S., please call Pat McGarvey at 215-637-7777, ext. 206**



From left to right, back row: Patricia McGarvey, Sr. Martin, Sr. Mary Ann, Bobby Keyes of Enterprise Rent-a-Car, Joseph Gerdes of Bridge Foundation Board Member.

**THANK YOU ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR, RBC CAPITAL MARKETS, PENN JERSEY PAPER, JOHN PERZEL (First Row, second from right) AND FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF GOV. TOM RIDGE!**

## N.A.G.S. PARENTS MAKING THE HEADLINES



Jeff Manto, father of Jeffrey, Gr. 4, and Andreana, Gr. 6, and Gabrielle, a N.A.H.S. Freshman, (children pictured above right) was inducted into the *Greater Buffalo Sports Hall of Fame* on October 29, 2008. Mr. Manto is also married to Mrs. Denise Manto, First Trimester Seventh Grade substitute teacher.

The four Time MVP was honored for sixteen seasons in Major League Baseball career beginning in 1990. While playing, Manto's nickname was "Mickey" Manto after Mickey Mantle.

Among the many teams Manto has played are the Cleveland Indians, Philadelphia Phillies and Baltimore Orioles. Following his playing career, Jeff continues to be involved in MLB as an instructor, scout and hitting coach, most recently. Some equipment of Manto's playing days can be found in the *Baseball Hall of Fame* in Cooperstown, NY.

Manto continues to be involved in the sport by helping players of all ages develop their skills in the area's only year-round facility, *Jeff Manto's Big League Baseball and Softball Academy*, located in Newtown, PA.



N.A.G.S. is proud to sponsor **Christine Sullivan**, mother of Caitlyn, Gr. 5., and Nicole, Gr. 1, for the **Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training**. Christine will walk in a marathon with 50 other walkers on January 11, 2009 in Orlando, Florida.

Since 1988, more than 380,000 volunteer participants have helped raise more than \$900 million to benefit research to develop new ways to improve treatments of blood cancers, drugs and survival rates, as well as assistance to families fighting the disease. Christine, pictured below, has set a high goal of \$5,000 this year. In 2007, the entire **Team in Training** raised over \$330,000!

To make a tax deductible donation, please visit Christine's secure website: <http://pages.teamintraining.org/epa/wdw09/cullivan>



# New Families Reception



What better way to welcome new families to N.A.G.S. than to celebrate their arrival with a special liturgy and reception? As is the tradition, September 7, 2008, marked the date that forty families were formally welcomed to Nazareth Academy Grade School by the Parents' Association Board Members, Administration, Faculty and Staff.

The N.A.G.S. Choir, led by Music Minister Suzanne Trotter, sang beautifully throughout the liturgy, which was celebrated by Rev. James MacNew, OSFS. Following at school, parents and students were greeted by the Sisters and the faculty. Guests enjoyed a luncheon buffet, provided by the Parents' Association, and students had the opportunity to make a hand-crafted memento.



A warm "thank you" to Hank Wajda, pictured at left, for providing the musical entertainment during the reception.



Our school is like a family and our family welcomes you! God bless you with special joy and peace as you join the NAGS community!



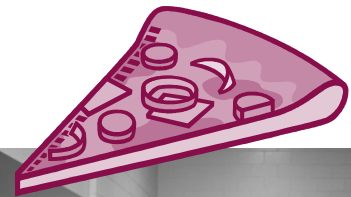
**At left: Meet our Parents' Association Board Members! From left to right:**

- Tracy Morton, *Vice President*
- Sally Unger, *Sergeant-At-Arms*
- Anne Marie Coyle, *President*
- Diane Delia, *Recording Secretary*
- Lori Stride, *Corresponding Secretary*
- Bernice Duesler, *Treasurer*





# Joe Santucci: Raising Big Dough for N.A.G.S.



Seizing a golden opportunity to partner with Joe Santucci, father of Natalie Santucci, Gr. 5, in a new Parents' Association fundraiser has proven to be a great success! Last year, Joe Santucci, of **Joe Santucci's Original Square Pizza**, offered to provide pizza at cost, once a month on First Fridays. Alison Cacchio came on board as Chairperson and began serving slices (cheese, pep or white!) in September, 2007. Alison is the wife of John Cacchio, '72, and mother of John, '04, Andrew, '06 and Caroline, Gr. 6.

Filling and distributing the student's orders in an organized assembly line was effortless with the help of many parent volunteers. The smiles on the students' faces was a sure sign that they were enjoying the special lunch!

Due to the overwhelming generosity and support of **Santucci's** and our school families, over \$2,600.00 was raised in the 2007-08 school year! We sincerely thank Mr. Santucci and his entire crew for their efforts in "delivering" delicious slices of fun to our students!



*This year's Pizza Crew; Left to right - Chairperson Alison Cacchio, Jennifer Crowley, Lisa Vitorelli, Tammy Preston, Joanne Moran and Cristi Keares. Not pictured: Janet Gilbert.*

This year, Alison Cacchio, stated, "Once again, pizza sales have taken off. The kids love it, it's hot and delivered on time! Mr. Santucci's shop really strives to accommodate us. I am very grateful for his support of the school." In turn, we acknowledge the work of Alison Cacchio, who has skillfully organized this "dough raising" initiative!

**Joe Santucci's Original Square Pizza** has recently moved from its location in the Knights Road shopping center to the site of the former Perkin's Restaurant at Knights Road and Woodhaven Road. The new 5,000 sq. ft. facility is now known as "**Joe Santucci's Original Square Pizza Bar and Grill.**" Although the location is new, Joe confirms that some things will never change - and that is he is "*still making the original pizza that my father made fifty years ago!*" We wish the best of luck to both Joe and his wife Nadine in their expansion and new venture.



## Celebrating Anniversary Milestones

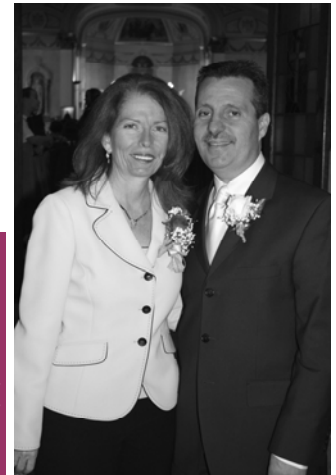


Celebrating twenty-five years or fifty years of marriage is certainly a time to pause and celebrate! If you want to know the secret to a good marriage, you can consult school secretary Helen Primus and her husband John, who recently celebrated their Fiftieth anniversary!

We also congratulate Cathy and Gary Achilles and Terry and Nick Vaccarino on the celebration of their Twenty-Fifth Anniversary!

*At right, Eighth Grade Teacher Cathy Achilles and her husband Gary.*

*Below right, Social Studies and Physical Education Teacher Terry Vaccarino and her husband Nick Vaccarino.*



The three couples were present for a special school Liturgy and blessing on October 3, 2008. The First Friday Mass was organized by Miss Molly Doyle and the Fourth Grade Class.

The theme, "*Respect All Life*" was carried throughout the celebration in the readings and petitions. Following the mass, the couples received a special blessing and flowers and gifts were presented by the Fourth Grade students, on behalf of the entire school.

*At left, John and Helen Primus. Mrs. Primus has been a Secretary at the school for thirty-two years!*





# A "Tea-Lightful" Day!

Dressed in their finest lady-like attire, over 145 mothers, daughters, grandmothers, alumni, students and friends attended the "Occasion for Tea" Event on October 13th. Torredale-Frankford Country Club, with its enchanting views from the veranda, provided the perfect setting for this elegant affair.

The color of burgundy and purple mums popped amidst the crisp white tablecloths. High centerpieces, topped with purple roses and burgundy flowers, brought attention to the buffet tables brimming with savory finger sandwiches, sweet English tea scones and bite-size desserts. Guests sipped Earl Grey tea and Lemon Tea Punch.

With many alumni present, the afternoon was a great opportunity to reconnect with the NAGS community. The afternoon was *just the right blend* of friendship and solidarity, all in support of our grade school. The event raised over \$3,300 for the educational needs of our students. We sincerely thank the Sisters, alumni, the NAGS families and students for their donations and enthusiastic participation in the event! May God bless you!

**We gratefully acknowledge our Sponsors whose generosity benefits the educational programs of Nazareth Academy Grade School**

## TEA-LIGHTFUL SPONSOR

Nazareth Academy Grade School Families

## TEA-LOVELY SPONSOR

The Cacchio Family      The Cudeyro Family  
The Showers Family      Salem Creekside Inn



## TEA-LICIOUS SPONSOR

Anne Marie B. Coyle  
Miss Giovana Lian Delia and Mother, Diane  
Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Infant Jesus Convent  
The King Family, '78, '80, '85, '09  
The Litvinas Family honors the acceptance of Ashley Brogan, '99,  
to Temple University School of Medicine  
Sr. Francesca Onley, CSFN, Holy Family University

Tea Co-Chairs:

Alison Cacchio,  
Pat McGarvey,  
Andrea Showers  
& Tina Cudeyro



Left to right: Sr. Aurelia, Sr. Mary Ann, Sr. Anita and Margaret Kelly of Holy Family University



At left, Bobbi Streff, Linda Krayger, Lori Singmaster and Beth Cosenza enjoy a spot of tea!

In appreciation for her guidance and support of our event, Caroline Cacchio, at right, presented flowers to Marie Litvinas, Grandmother of Matthew, '04 and Samuel McGarvey, '06



Below left: Three generations of the Cacchio Family gather for a group shot. Left to right: Caroline Cacchio, Gr. 6, Barbara Holdren, Dianna Holdren, Ann Voelme and Alison Cacchio.

Right: Isabelle Anzabi, Gr. 1, Ellen Anzabi, Michele Anzabi, Gr. 3, Nicolette Fila, Gr. 3 and Beata Fila





At right: Megan Yearicks-Luccarelli '88, daughter Gehrig, Maureen Henwood and Sr. Mary Ann.



At left: Grace Lifsted, Sarah Fox, Gr. 6, Lisa Fox, Maria Nowacki-Lifsted, '83, & Maura Lifsted.



Above: Paige Cudeyro, Gr. 4, Co-Chair Tina Cudeyro and Desiree Cudeyro, Gr. 6



Above: Sr. Yvette, Sr. Martin, Mrs. Ana Nowacki and Sr. Mary Ann



Above: right to left: Sr. Martin, Meghan Quinn, '00, and Mrs. Quinn



At left, Sally Gaughan-Unger, '81, Elizabeth Unger and Mary Gaughan



Center photo: Four generations of the Varley Family enjoy the afternoon together. Pictured right to left are Joan Brandley, Edna Wilson, Lisa Varley and Alexandra Varley, '09



At left: Shannon McNulty Brown, '85, and Andrea Showers

All of our young guests gather for a group photo at right.



# Grandparents and Older Friends "Go Back to School"



The theme and new program format of our Grandparents' and Older Friends' Day, "Back to School," proved that it's never too late to learn something new! The event presented opportunities for guests to get back in the classroom by attending two classes with the students.

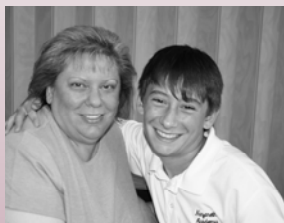
Over 260 Grandparents and Older Friends participated in the 7th Annual Event on September 29, 2008. The Development Office hosted the occasion, along with our faculty who planned special lessons and reconfigured their classrooms to accommodate our guests. Among the many subjects "taught" were: computer skills, Smart Board use, exploring the use of magnets in Science, Hand Bells and Challenge 24 in Math class. Following the morning classes, "recess" featured more time together to enjoy refreshments and the brisk fall air.

There is no doubt that Grandparents and Older Friends play an important role in N.A.G.S. families! Grandparents and Friends scored the event with high marks, stating that they enjoyed meeting our faculty and getting a N.A.G.S. education!



## SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS and THANKS:

- ◆ To all of our grandparents, godparents, aunts, uncles and friends for their participation in our event.
- ◆ To Sr. Mary Ann and our Faculty for their assistance in planning our event! We especially recognize our dedicated Teachers who designed their lessons with our Grandparents and Older Friends in mind!
- ◆ To Bill Brandley, (pictured at right with Lisa Varley and grandchildren Alexandra Varley, Gr. 8 and Michael Varley, Gr. 5) for his generosity and time in hand crafting the desk for our event raffle! *Through the support of our Grandparents and Older Friends, this effort raised \$890 to benefit the Technology Program! N.A.G.S. is blessed with the support of so many Grandparents and Older Friends!*
- ◆ To Eunice Elbertson, the creator of our beautiful cozy afghans for our Door Prizes.
- ◆ To our Student Council officers for their assistance with our program.
- ◆ Last but certainly not least, to our team of volunteers, parents and students who make this day a memorable event every year! ***Thank you for making our school shine!***



# Expressing Gratitude to a Dedicated Teacher



Mrs. Catherine Bateman, above, with daughter Erin Bateman, who has signed on as our Technology teacher.

N.A.G.S students and faculty participated in a ceremony to bid a farewell to Catherine Bateman, who has taught at N.A.G.S. since 1991. Joining the Faculty first as an Art Teacher and then sharing her teaching talents as Technology Teacher in 1999. Mrs. Bateman is credited with inspiring our students to use their imagination, develop their creativity through art and excel in their Technology skills. Mrs. Bateman instituted the annual Art Show, held in conjunction with the Spring Concert, and also facilitated the improvement and advancement of the Technology Program.

On behalf of the entire school community, Sr. Mary Ann expressed her appreciation, stating, "Mrs. Bateman's 16 years at N.A.G.S. has enriched so many lives in so many ways and we will miss her greatly." Mrs. Bateman was presented with roses and an engraved crystal bowl in appreciation for her contributions to N.A.G.S. programs, curriculum and school spirit. Please join us in wishing Mrs. Bateman all the best in her future teaching endeavors!



Above, before the First and Eighth Grade buddies left for their Hay Ride, the Student Council presented Mrs. Bateman with roses and an engraved crystal bowl.



At far left, Sr. Martin, Mrs. Bateman and Sr. Mary Ann bid a fond farewell.

At left, it's hugs for Mrs. Bateman! Pictured are fourth grade students Lauren Preski and Alexa Donlon.



## "Sonshine Kids" Founder Retires from N.A.G.S.



After 14 years of directing and organizing activities for the N.A.G.S. "Sonshine Kids", Sr. Evelyn Marita, CSFN, will pass on the reigns to Music teacher Suzanne Trotter. In gratitude for Sister's efforts and contributions, the November First Friday Liturgy, prepared by Senorita Marie Maddox and the Spanish Club, was dedicated in her honor.

Following the liturgy, Matthew Unger stated, "For the wonderful person you are and for the many gifts you have given to Nazareth,

we thank you for spreading your love of song and music with us!" Above, letters from each student were presented to Sr. Evey, each reminiscing their fondest "Sonshine Kids" memory. Gifts of plants and flowers were also presented by class representatives.

We are grateful to Sr. Evey for sharing her many talents and gifts with our students, families and community. The legacy of bringing joy to others through music will live on in the hearts of our students and alumni!

Sister will continue organizing activities at Alpha House Kindergarten and we wish her the best of luck in carrying on her ministry.

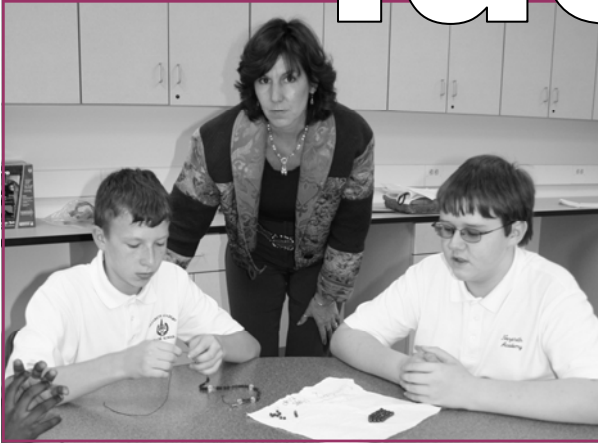
At right:, above: Nicholas Mancino, Gr. 8. Sr. Evey, and Bud Knapp, Gr. 8. Below right: Sr. Yvette, Sr. Mary Ann, Sr. Martin, Sr. Aurelia and Sr. Anita with Sr. Evey.



# BRINGING SERVICE PROJECT

# ideas

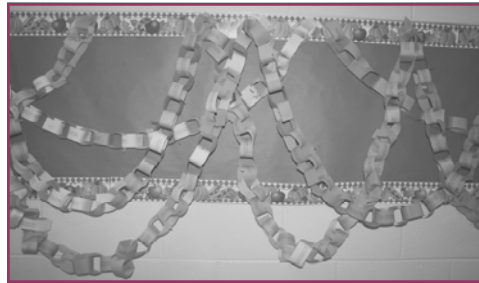
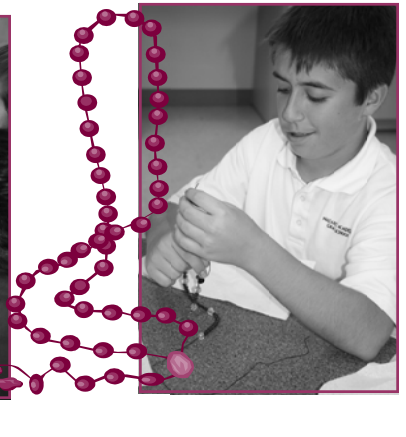
## to life...



*Young people can find great satisfaction and wonderful learning opportunities in planning and participating in community service. With the guidance of their homeroom teachers, each grade, as well as the Student Council, discusses options, resources and abilities they have to meet unfulfilled needs of the community. Service projects present opportunities to leave the world better for future generations through productive, meaningful engagement.*

Homeroom teacher Mrs. Denise Manto oversees the **Seventh Grade Rosary Project** for *Smith Health Care* in Mountain Top, PA.

The students were inspired to create the rosaries after watching *"The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima,"* the movie depicting the 1917 miraculous events in Fatima, Portugal, in which three children have visions of our Lady.



The Student Council organized a **Paper Chain Link Fundraiser** to benefit St. Francis Inn in Philadelphia. With the generous and enthusiastic support of our students, over \$550.00 was collected for the shelter's expenses in operating a soup kitchen, thrift shop and women's day center.

Faculty members Terry Vaccarino and Senorita Marie Maddox have teamed up to organize home cooked meals for **Aid For Friends**. Special trays are distributed at Parents' Association meetings and they are brought back to school filled with a nutritious and delicious meal. Over 100 meals have been delivered to **Aid for Friends** since this initiative began at N.A.G.S.

If you are interested in also providing meals for the poor, please contact the school to obtain foil trays that can be returned any time once they are prepared. The program is a valuable lesson in teaching, and living, our Middle States theme, **"Faith in Action, Rooted In Catholic Values."**

*At right, Terry Vaccarino and Senorita prepare another shipment for Aid for Friends.*



The **First Grade's** "Faith In Action" theme for the month of October was "Respect All Life." Mrs. "H", teacher, explained, "The First Grade class has been learning about how we are all God's children, no matter our differences. Our focus is on children with special learning needs at Our Lady of Confidence Day School in Willow Grove that serves children with Down's syndrome and other developmental differences."

Encouraged by the First Graders, the entire school began a **Picture Book Collection** to bring the gift of reading to God's special children. On November 17th, five student representatives from Our Lady of Confidence visited N.A.G.S. to meet our students, and show their appreciation for the book collection.



The First Grade Class, at left with the collection of picture books. Above, students from Our Lady of Confidence get acquainted with the First Grade Class and Mrs. H.



The **Eighth Grade Service Projects** continue to channel the energy of youth to benefit the growing number of older adults.

In October, Halloween cheer was spread by the 8th graders, who visited **River's Edge Nursing Home** dressed in costumes. The students distributed candy and snacks to the residents, whose day was brightened by our students' energy and enthusiasm!

A month later, the students returned to visit the Nursing Home again at Thanksgiving, pictured at left and below.



Marisa Poncia, Gr. 8, said, "We really enjoyed visiting **River's Edge Nursing Home**. We sang songs and distributed fruit and homemade cards to the residents. Our class really enjoyed bringing smiles to their faces!"

Pictures by Marisa Poncia, Gr. 8



# Role Models at CAREER DAY

The 5th through 8th grade students were hard at work taking mental notes as twenty-eight professionals offered practical advice and back ground information of their respective careers. The event, held on November 24, 2008, featured various professions, such as Law, Nursing, Banking, Marketing, Real Estate Development, Technology, Teaching and Event Planning, just to name a few!

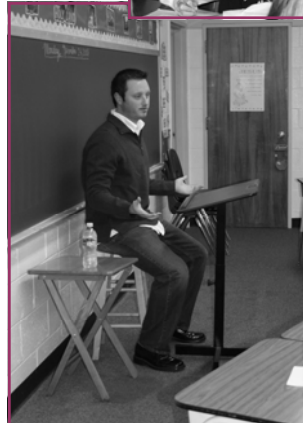


*The Development Office tips its hat to all of our participants, whose time and involvement ensures the success of the annual event:*



- Michael Agnew** Test Engineer, Motorola
- Andrea Caldwell** Accounts Manager
- Cheryl Cantwell** Registered Nurse
- Christine Cerquetelli** Bank Teller
- Angel Clausson** Videographer
- Lisa Coleflesh** Florist, Owner
- Rita Corbett** Registered Nurse
- Anne Marie Coyle** Attorney
- Roseanne Duzinski** Corrections Administrator
- Natalie Ezdon** Analyst/Marketing
- Brittany King, Gina King** Canine Companions
- Mike LeCompte** Musician
- Sallie Litvinas, '80** Pastry Chef
- Jeff Manto** Professional Baseball
- Richard Montanez** Traffic Engineer
- Lucy Nguyen** Event Planner
- Mary Nguyen** Registered Nurse
- Len Poncia** Real Estate Developer
- Tammy Preston** Nurse Practitioner
- Mark Purcell** Technology Architect
- Meghan Quinn, '00** Latin Teacher
- Michelle Scipione** Federal Reserve VP
- Allan Tereshko** Pennsylvania Judge
- Melissa Tiernan** Occupational Therapy
- Laura Tuzio-Ross** Doll Sculptor
- Robert Wagner** District Magistrate
- Matthew Walicki** Structural Engineer





# Meet the 2008-09 Student Council



The Student Council Officers were sworn in to duty on September 19, 2008. At left, Olivia Sharkey, '05, President of N.A.H.S. Student Council, offers encouragement and advice to the officers and student body.



At right, Student Council Moderator, Mrs. Mai Dang presided as each officer took their oath of service. Pictured is Marisa Poncia, as she takes the pledges

as President of N.A.G.S. Student Council.

Following the ceremony, the officers gathered to mark the memorable occasion. Pictured at right are: Sr. Mary Ann Allton, Principal, Olivia Sharkey, '05, President Marisa Poncia, Vice President Deanna Stephens, Treasurer Stephen Purcell, Secretary Maria Palantino and Mrs. Mai Dang.

Congratulations and good luck to the new officers! We look forward to a successful year!



## SPORTS WRAP UP

Congratulations to the Varsity Soccer Team that ended the season with seven wins and one tie in the regular season. Before a crowd of N.A.G..S. supporters, the team won the first round of the playoffs, but despite all their hard efforts, fell to Assumpta Academy in the Championship game. The team, proud of their season's record, accepted the Second Place trophy after the game.



The Junior Varsity team, still learning the game, had a good season as well!

Sr. Mary Ann stated, *"I thank Mrs. Carol Kerr, Mr. Bud Knapp, Mr. Tim McFadden and Mr. Joe Santucci for their superb coaching and mentoring, and thanks to our Athletic Director, Mrs. Sally Unger, for taking care of all the behind the scene responsibilities! Special thanks also to each and every member of the Varsity and Junior Varsity teams for their hard work, dedication and effort to play well."*

At left, cheering on the JV Team are: Maria Palantino, Gr. 8, Sr. Mary Ann, Marisa Poncia, Gr. 8 and Deanna Stephens, Gr. 8.

(Photo by Lisa Varley,)



# 2008 ANNUAL GIVING FUND

## Giving Well - and Wisely

Whether you donate to a local cause or a national charity this holiday season, you'll experience the most joy and satisfaction when you know that your hard earned money lands where it is most needed and will do the most good. While reducing your taxes may not be the primary reason you donate, you might as well take advantage of every allowable deduction to reduce your tax bill.

The 2008 Annual Giving Fund will provide for: Thirty-two new CPU's in the Tech Lab, SMART Boards for four classrooms, Software required to integrate computer skills across the curriculum, faculty training for innovative methods to enhance learning, maintenance of our server's internet connection and support for faculty salaries and benefits.

Given the instability of the economy, we are overwhelmed and grateful with the support to date. Over \$31,000 has been donated by our generous and dedicated alumni, parents, alumni parents and friends. If you have not made a contribution, won't you please consider sending one today?

To make a donation, please use the form below for cash, check or credit card ~ or ~ go online to [www.nazarethacademy.net](http://www.nazarethacademy.net), click "Development" and then "Donate now."



### NAZARETH ACADEMY GRADE SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND

Your gift will enable NAGS to continue its mission of family through education, as it has for the past 65 years

We invite our entire community to participate in the Annual Fund and become members of the following giving levels:

Blessed Frances Siedliska Society*	\$5,000 & above
Pope John Paul II Society	\$2,500 to \$4,999
Family Circle	\$1,000 to \$2,499
Principal's Circle	\$500 to \$999
NAGS Club	\$100 to \$499
Maroon & Gray Club	\$1 to \$99

All members of the Blessed Frances Siedliska Society will be listed perpetually in Annual Giving Reports.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

If alumna, maiden name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "NAGS" or Bill my VISA or MASTER CARD:

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is given In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

or in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

My/Spouse's company will match this gift. I have enclosed the Matching Gift form.

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address \_\_\_\_\_

Nazareth Academy Grade School is a non profit 501 (c) (3) organization listed in "The Official Catholic Directory" under the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth.



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FALL/WINTER  
2008

[www.nazarethacademy.net](http://www.nazarethacademy.net)

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
Who unto man His Son hath given;  
While angels sing with tender mirth,  
A glad New Year to all the earth.”

~ Martin Luther King

May this *New Year* bring promises  
of new blessings for you.

*Happy New Year!*

**Phillies Phever  
Spreads Through  
N.A.G.S. !**



**As the Philadelphia Phillies inched their way toward the  
2008 World Series victory, students, faculty and staff were  
on board with Phenomenal team spirit and support!**

