

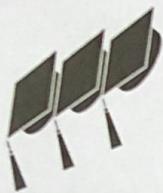


Pompton Lakes High School

# Alumni News

Spring 2018

Volume 37



## Scholarship Recipients Class Of 2017



*Front row from left:*

Isabella Bruno - The Institute of Culinary Ed.  
Adrienne Brown - Stockton University  
Amanda Ekers - Fairfield University  
Brianna Otto - Ramapo College  
Jacqueline Maher - Coast Guard Academy

*Back row from left:*

Erin Keating - University of Delaware  
Hannah Curran - Seton Hall University  
Mark Diamond - Passaic County  
Community College  
Jackson Hayes - Rutgers University  
Casey Ackerman - TCNJ

# FOR FRIENDS FROM THE FIFTIES ...PLHS SPIRIT LIVES ON



On an unseasonably mild Friday night in October 2017, a relatively small group of Pompton alumni from the classes of '54, '55, '56, and '58 joined members of the Class of '57 at a celebration for their 60<sup>th</sup> class reunion. These friends from the fifties all gathered to greet their high school classmates, to reminisce about their teenage years, and to share their experiences since graduation. They met because of the treasured memories of years spent at Pompton High Lakes High School, because of a special shared camaraderie and friendship, and because of that unquestionable PLHS spirit which cannot be denied...that spirit which lives on in all PLHS alumni as one glances back to that incredible time and place in one's youth...and remembers.

The gathering took place at Cypress Estiatorio in Kinnelon where guests were treated to a 5-course dinner as tunes from the fifties served as the appropriate background music. A friendly welcome and introductions throughout the evening by Fred Bona('57), a blessing by Dave Gaston('57), remarks by Al Vanderbush, '57 class president, and a group sing-a-long of "On, Oh Pompton" led by Dave Vanderbush('58) were among the program highlights.

A special feature of the evening was the roving microphone whereby many classmates volunteered to speak impromptu about special memories of times shared at Pompton High. Talks centered around sports events, class and club activities, proms and dances, favorite teachers/coaches, and that special someone you will never forget. Recollections were as vivid as though they had just happened...conversations continued as they did when we once walked down the hallway on the way to period 2 French class or 7<sup>th</sup> period gym.



Reunion Committee Members

Pictured from left: Al Vanderbush ('57), Dave Fiscella ('57), and Fred Bona ('57). Not pictured: Linda Farnoff Kirker ('57), Bonnie Hurlbert Bona ('58), Karen Coll Post ('56), and Claire Hissem Knight ('56)

Also memorable were fun photo opportunities at a specially designated "selfie area" where various appropriate props were available to make the pictures interesting. Group photos taken according to class were given to guests for souvenirs in addition to blow-up versions of high school yearbook photos as a startling reminder of the way we were.

Saturday morning offered a trip down memory lane with a tour of PLHS conducted by Colleen Moyle, athletic director. Bob Rosenkranz ('57) described the tour in a letter to Mr. Przybylinski as, "It was exceptional in every respect, informative, extensive, delivered with warmth, knowledge, and grace." On Saturday afternoon it was Cardinal football at Hershfield Park for the alumni

where they enjoyed watching and cheering on the home team and singing "On, Oh Pompton" with the same spirit and enthusiasm as in high school. An informal gathering at an Italian restaurant in Boonton on Saturday evening put the final touches on a most enjoyable reunion experience.

Our numbers have dwindled...our hair has turned gray...most of us are a few pounds on the plus side and a little stiff in the joints...but the twinkle is still in our eyes, the smile is still on our lips, and the Cardinal spirit lives on in our hearts...and it is that spirit which will keep us coming back in celebration of times spent at our beloved alma mater, Pompton Lakes High School.



PLHS Pride and Spirit 50s Style as Mary Jane Vreeland Owens ('56) and Dave Fiscella ('57) show off original jackets worn decades ago.



## Alumni Group Photos

....pictured clockwise from top right  
Class of 1957, Class of 1956, and  
Class of 1958.



## **President's Message**

Dear Fellow Alumni,

On behalf of the students of Pompton Lakes High School I want to thank you for your outstanding generosity and support. Your pride continues to shine through year after year. If you should change your address please notify us so we can continue to stay in touch. Remember "Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away." Comedian George Carlin

Stay well and take care  
Sam Faucetta, President  
Class of 1964  
973-839-8334

## **2017 Scholarship Recipient Thank You**

Dear Mr. Faucetta,

I was extremely happy when I found out I was a recipient of the Pompton Lakes Alumni Scholarship. I'm writing to thank you for your generous financial support.

In the fall I plan to attend Seton Hall University, where I will pursue a career in Secondary Special Education and History. One day I'd like to come back to PLHS and become a teacher.

By awarding me with the Pompton Lakes Alumni Association Scholarship, I'm able to concentrate on my next 4 years at SHU, and focus more attention on my goal to eventually have a classroom of my own. Hopefully one day I will be able to help other students achieve their goals just you have helped me. For such a small town its amazing how much we all support one another. I'm honored and grateful to have received this scholarship. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Hannah Curran

**Correction**  
**In the last issue of**  
**Pompton Lakes High School**  
**ALUMNI NEWS**  
**Leonard Marcy, Class of 1945**  
**was mistakenly referred to as Richard Marcy**  
**also pictured with Mr. Marcy was:**  
**Miss Eeapriz, Hispanic American Student of the Year**





# Pompton Lakes High School

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VINCENT S. PRZYBYLINSKI, JR., Ed.D.  
Principal

COLLEEN M. MOYLE  
Dir. of P.E., Health & Athletics

ANTHONY J. MATTERA  
Vice Principal

TAMMY WEISHAUPP  
Director of Guidance

May 19, 2017

Mr. Samuel Faucetta, President  
PLHS Alumni Association  
56 Lenox Avenue  
Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442



Dear Mr. Faucetta:

On behalf of everyone at Pompton Lakes High School (PLHS), I thank you and the dedicated PLHS Alumni Association for the donation of \$2,690 for the purchase of new high definition (HD) live streaming equipment.

Two years ago, PLHS introduced a new Broadcast Journalism and Multimedia Production course. Subsequently, The Cardinal Network, an online source of news, stories, and special features associated with PLHS, was born. The combination of Broadcast Journalism and The Cardinal Network has afforded students the opportunity to develop an expansive skill set that includes interviewing, writing, recording, editing, and producing. With the ardent support of our team of teachers, many students have seized the opportunity and thrived. At this point, we are ready to expand the Broadcast Journalism and Multimedia Production program into the world of live streaming. This venture will allow PLHS alumni, families, and other interested followers to view events such as the graduation ceremony live. Because of your kindness, generosity, and support of our burgeoning program, HD live streaming will be able to happen sooner rather than later.

As you know, at Pompton Lakes High School, pride and tradition resonate. Characterized by great achievements and lofty aspirations, PLHS graciously embraces the presence and contributions of its alumni, community members, and friends. Thank you again for keeping your alma mater close in thought. We look forward to serving our alumni and many others through HD live streaming.

With Gratitude and Cardinal Pride,

Vincent S. Przybylinski, Jr., Ed.D.  
Principal

- c: Dr. Paul Amoroso, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Renée Taveniere, School Business  
Administrator / Board Secretary  
Ms. Colleen Moyle, District Director  
Mr. Kevin Hazell, Dist. Computer Tech. Coord.  
Mr. Anthony Mattera, Assistant Principal  
Mr. Stephen Tarsitano, Dept. Chairperson  
Mr. Robert Edgar, Teacher of English  
Mr. Robert Texel, Teacher of English

"Pride and Tradition"

# **Cardinal Athletics**

**By Colleen M. Moyle AD class of '82**

Fall and winter has come and gone, but PLHS is still basking in the glow of two very successful seasons, enjoyed by all teams at all levels. Most teams finished with a winning record. The final for all teams was an outstanding 197-59-9. The cardinals won league championships in wrestling, and bowling.

The boys' soccer team completed their fairy tale season with an exciting overtime 3-2 victory to secure the Group I Overall State Championship - a truly remarkable season and accomplishment. The football team once again made it to the overall state championship at Kean University but fell short to a very good Hasbrouck Heights team. The wrestling team won back-to-back District Championships and placed four individuals in the overall state finals in Atlantic City. The bowling team took second overall in the State Sectional Championship and the girls fencing won the epee district championships. Girls fencing also had an individual compete in the overall state championships.

Both seasons were a success in the area of sportsmanship. As the spring season is attempting to get underway with all of the snow and rainy weather one fact will always remain, Pompton Lakes is proud of all of their Cardinal Athletes.

## **Pompton's Defense is Second to None**

*(North Jersey Record)  
11/17/2017*

As of this date, there are no other active boys soccer teams who haven't given up a goal in the state tournament. That makes Pompton not just a champion but an anomaly. There are only 16 public schools still in the running out of a field of 301 at the beginning of post-season play. The Cardinals are the only one with all zeros.

What is now their biggest strength started as a question mark at the season's beginning. Now that strong defense has led them to four straight shut-outs and the Group 1 semi-final game against Dayton.

"We play with so much heart. We take pride in the shutout. We take pride in not conceding a goal," said Cardinal goalie Jason Dubrovich. There is no secret as to how Pompton wins. The Cardinals just do not give up many chances. Dubrovich is sure-handed as a goalie, although he hasn't been under much pressure. He didn't get more than six stops in any state shut-out with only four saves in the sectional championship.

They have an elite scorer in senior Carlo Gonzalez with 73 career goals, three in the sectional finals. This is a new school record. Including assists, he has made up about half of the team's offense this season. What he's given them has been more than enough. Everyone on the field takes responsibility.

Senior Michael Magyar states ""That's the thing that coach always tells us. You always take pride in your defending, no matter what position you play. Forward or goalie. Anything you do. If you're not helping out defensively, you're not helping out."

Even before the start of the season, Coach Rob Edgar knew that the defense would be the make- or- break factor. This was a group with very little experience. While Jason Charyak had started before, a knee injury had kept him out last year and both Chris Burger and Nate Tucker were JV call-ups. Sean Bastian was the only returning defender. This led to a bumpy start losing the season opener and then a period late in the season when they gave up fourteen goals over four games. Thankfully for them, those struggles ended when the states began.

"They really came together toward the end of the season," said Edgar. "We had a few hiccups along the way. But I challenged them to lock teams down. Teams that win championships don't give up goals. You don't see big high scoring games with good teams. You can't be a team that's having shootouts with other teams. You've got to lock it down in the back and they took it to heart."

Few defenses are close to what Pompton Lakes is doing. That's why their perfect record is unique. As Dubrovich mentioned earlier in season, "We know it's our last year. A lot of us have been playing together since we were 6. So every game we go into, we don't lie down. Whether we go down 1-0 or up 1-0, we play our game."

Continued on Page 10

# Alumni News

**'45 Robert E. Ludwig** turned 18 November 1 & was drafted, serving in the Air Force he was discharged in March 1947.

He married **Katherine Ball '45** in August 1947 & they were married for over 60 years.

**'46 Corinne (Roach) Tyndall** enjoyed celebrating classmate Bill Potash's 90th Birthday February of 2018.

**'46 Constance (Williams) Monks** says hello to all & continues to live at the Holland Christian Home in North Haledon.

**'46 Constance (Williams) Monks** says hello to all & continues to live at the Holland Christian Home in North Haledon. She just had a pneumonia scare and is recovering. She is so happy to continue the association & says hello to all who may remember her.

**'47 Erna (Adels) Strash** is saddened to report that her eldest son Roger died January 22, 2017 of heart & lung failure as a result of his diabetes. He was 66.

**'47 Barbara (Leppold) McKinley** became a great-grandmother for the first time in October 2017. The baby, August Lee Collichio, is the son of Barbara's grandson David and wife Maggie.

**'47 Ralph Stocks** has been attending at least 1 Cardinal football game at Hershfield Park since 1969.

**'48 Nancy (MacDonald) Johnson** celebrating 70th anniversary of graduation from PLHS. In 1948 she recalls there were 2 graduations. The 1st night it was rained out with the guys red gowns bleeding all over their white shirts, no problem for the girls whose gowns were white.

The actual graduation took place the next night. Of course there were parties both nights, Claire Sharr's house, Nick Gentile's house and more on the following nights. Those were the days making good memories!

**'49 Emilie (Grootendoorst) Barry** is still with her 2 girls in California. In early January, shingles showed up in her right eye which is still being treated by the ophthalmologist, who will also remove cataracts.

**'52 Albert J. Morel and Ruth (L'Armee) Morel '56** are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in April.

**'55 William Gervens and Dawn (Herbst) Gervens** celebrated their 60th anniversary on March 22nd. They thank the Lord for how much He has blessed them over the years.

**'57 Helen Gioia's** grandson **Kevin Magee** will graduate from St. John's University, Queens, NY May 2018. His sister Caleigh & parents **Karen & Mike** are all graduates of **PLHS**.

**'58 John Ouweleen** had an outstanding 2017 participating in one of his hobbies, road racing. In all races he competed in the 75 - 79 age group. 3/11/17, Jacksonville, FL winning 1st place & setting a new individual course record at the USA Open National Championship 15K. 9/26/17 Berlin, Germany winning 1st place in the Berlin Marathon, considered a World Championship race. 10/28/17 Tulsa, OK 1st place in the Masters National Championship on invitation from USA Track and Field.

**'61 Donald Norman** and his wife Lucy will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on October 26th.

**'72 Pat (Oberti) Manfredo** became a 1st time grandmother to Connor Everett Mackling on 1/8/18 to his parents Christin & Jeremy Mackling.

**'74 Artie Ehramjian** reports with conflicting emotions that he has made his last run home on the Yuma/Tucson train line as engineer. His desire to become an engineer was born in Pompton Lakes watching the New York, Susquehanna & Western run through his backyard. He started on the Morris County Central in Newfoundland, NJ in 1975 & in 1978 after college joined the Southern Pacific, which became Union Pacific, at Tucson. He thanks all who helped him live his dream 42 years ago, and looks forward to the journey ahead.

**'78 Debra Gaveglio** is planning to marry Bob Coco on December 29, 2018 at the Elks Lodge in Pompton Lakes. This year is 40 years graduating from PLHS & her wedding hope is that there are plans for a class reunion.

**'80 Dana Michael Colella** recognizes Diane Gelok, President of PLEF for all her hard work and leadership. The Pompton Lakes Education Foundation is now 5 years old & has donated \$70,000 to enhance the education of the students in all Pompton Lakes schools.



# Alumni News

*continued*

## REMEMBERING FORMER ALUMNI

'42 **Elsie (Gara) Walter** passed away November 1, 2017. Her family owned & operated the Park Hotel in Honesdale, PA. Elsie enjoyed a long career in banking with Columbia Savings and Loan.

'44 **Norma (Wiseman) Dibbell** passed away January 2017.

'45 **Katherine (Ball) Ludwig** passed away March 2012.

'47 **John S. (Jack) Naughton**, aged 89 passed away peacefully April 4, 2018. He was a professional actor in theatre, film, TV & commercials. Preceded in death by his dear wife, Patience Jarvis Naughton. Survivors include beloved wife Barbara Ramsey & her children, daughter Amanda Naughton, stepson Douglas J. Howard, cousins Thomas & Gerard Haring, cousin Margaret McKay, 11 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren. Memorial donations may be made to The Actors Fund.

'47 **Betty (Stam) Blascke** passed away January 20, 2018.

'49 **Jeannette (Dusselar) Struble** passed away June 25, 2017. **Walter** and Jeannette met at PLHS & had 66 years filled with happy memories.

'49 **Donna Matthews** passed away February 13, 2018.

'49 **Frank Mendez** passed away January 2017.

'51 **Joyce (Demarest) James** passed away June 14, 2017. She was an expert in Federal & State laws governing the care of special needs children.

'51 **Allyn Robert Macgill** passed away March 18, 2017. He served in the army & later bought & ran Park Crest Dry Cleaners. He loved to play & watch sports, especially football. He & **Marilyn (Klick) Macgill '52** were HS sweethearts.

'51 **Betty (Oarsley) Mendez** passed away April 2014.

'56 **William Breagy** passed February 9, 2015 in Union, KY. A dedicated band member, easy going & friendly was Bill at PLHS. He retired as a Vice President in sales & marketing with Sun Chemical Company. He enjoyed traveling throughout the US in his motor home.

'56 **Leah (Gordon) Halliday** passed on September 8, 2016. She lived in Manahawkin, NJ & was branch manager at First National Bank, Toms River before retiring.

'56 **Leonard Hazen** passed January 20, 2014. At PLHS he was elected class officer in grades 10, 11 & 12. An outstanding athlete, he excelled in both football & track. He retired after 35 years as a pharmaceutical machinery & equipment salesman. In later years he travelled extensively throughout Europe & the US, residing in Homosassa, FL.

'56 **David McCue** passed April 18, 2015. In HS he was famous for his hot rods, dry wit, & mischievous smile. He and wife **Bonnie (Post) McCue '55** made their home in Freedom, NH where he enjoyed hunting, fishing & golfing. Both attended the 2010 Rock N' Roll Reunion.

'56 **Peter Reilly** passed November 2, 2017. He was yearbook editor, voted "Outstanding Boy" & "Most Likely to Succeed", being known for dependability, perseverance, calmness and easy going personality. He received his AB in chemistry from Princeton & PhD in chemical engineering from UPenn. He served as faculty member in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Iowa State 40 years before retiring. His home was in Ames, IA.

'56 **Jeanette (Struble) Loughery** passed away June 27, 2016. Quiet & friendly, Jan was a high-spirited majorette at PLHS. She retired as an employee of Midlantic Bank in Newton & lived in Wantage, NJ. Jeanette is predeceased by her husband, **Daniel Loughery '56** in 2006.

'61 **Joseph G. Scully** passed away August 23, 2017. He was a boiler technician with Kiel Oil & a veteran of the Coast Guard.

'64 **John Gibson and Joey (Shallers) Gibson** passed February 2018. John played halfback at PLHS & enjoyed dancing. Joey was noted for her mirth & devilish grin.

'77 **Charles "Charlie" Buldo** passed away in 2017. He was an important member of PLHS football, basketball & track teams. Charlie was an avid fisherman & guitar player.

'78 **Daria A. Sweeney** passed in 2017. She was an excellent gymnast & great softball player. A graduate of Seton Hall University, she was a registered nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital.

**Suzanne L. Kuehm** passed away June 10, 2017. She received her nursing degree from Alfred University, New York, her specialty being pediatrics. Suzanne's life was full of love for animals including horses and dogs.

## REMEMBERING FORMER PLHS FACULTY

**Joseph Frank** passed away August 20, 2017. A graduate of Eastside High School and Seton Hall University, he co-owned Quality Box Lunch, Paterson, before his 30-year career as an Industrial Arts teacher at PLHS. In addition, he was the Student Council advisor for "Mr. Frank's Furters" hot dog stand at football games.

# Scholarship Donations 2017-2018

1939 - Frank M. Dibbell Jr.	1957 - Dawn Herbst Gervens
1940 - Henrietta Beekman Lawless	1957 - Al Vanderbush
1945 - Margy Nurik	1957 - Joan Benigno Danz
1946 - Corinne Roach Tyndall	1957 - Frederick Bona
1946 - Constance Williams Monks	1957 - Doris Hagdorn Bartlett
1947 - Erna Adels Strash	1957 - Richard Zimmerman
1947 - Virginia Smith Weatherwalks	1957 - Lorraine Parios Lavoie
1947 - Ralph C. Stocks	1957 - Helen Ashley Gioia
1947 - Carl A. Frahn	1957 - Sandra Omelianuk Bruno (in Mem. of Mary Ann Mass Jones '57)
1947 - Marie Magurno Pinney	1957 - Lurene Jochem Frantz
1948 - Arthur Porta	1958 - John Ouweleen
1948 - Charles Kientzler	1958 - Dave Vanderbush
1948 - Joyce Marvin Abbott	1958 - Doris Hurlbert Bona
1948 - Nancy MacDonald Johnson	1958 - Al Crebo, M.D.
1948 - Dr. Harvey Cohen	1958 - John Fisher
1948 - Raynold W. Pool	1958 - Christopher Parios
1948 - Jean Lowery Pool	1959 - Evelyn Hansen Sensale
1948 - June Casaleggio	1959 - John Ehramjian
1949 - Mary VanDuyne Lebeda	1959 - Marie Faucetta Andreotta
1949 - Ethel Beckman Moore	1959 - Richard Kunzier
1949 - Eleanor Potash Reynolds	1959 - Marilyn Thie
1949 - Helene LaSala D'Angelo	1960 - Barbara Ball Schultz
1949 - James Pellington	1960 - JoAnne Ott Shaw
1949 - Emilie Grootendorst Barry	1960 - Jeff Monacelli
1949 - Barbara Klein (in Mem. of Richard Klein '51)	1960 - Robert Burns
1950 - Walter Struble	1960 - Stan Usinowicz
1950 - Lawrence Setterfield	1960 - James McDermott
1950 - Glenn S. Pannell	1961 - Jerry Decker
1950 - E. Lynn Weckback	1961 - Gregory Reinhardt
1950 - Art Neuberger	1961 - Elaine Ricker Reinhardt
1950 - Donald Osinga	1961 - Peter Faucetta
1950 - Beatrice Weatherwalks Osinga	1961 - Joe Kinsey
1950 - Eleanor Bednarek Finke	1961 - Doris Alexander Rhodes
1950 - Joann Outslay	1961 - Gail Parry Weinshenker
1950 - Frank Schaible	1961 - Margaret Jackson Lipscomb
1950 - Regina Roche McPeek	1961 - John Murrin
1950 - August Faber	1962 - Robert Freeman
1951 - Robert Thonus	1962 - Doug Jackson
1951 - Ruth Mondelli Philpot	1962 - Stanley Osur
1951 - Barbara Middernacht Dolan	1962 - George Bonteski Jr.
1951 - Kenneth Lundstrom, Ph.D.	1962 - Karen VanVliet Mathes
1951 - Donald B. Wain	1962 - Leslie Omelianuk Zurla
1952 - Charles C. Perez	1963 - Mark Kaelin
1952 - James J. Keegal	1963 - David Gervens
1953 - Joan E. Berk	1963 - Diane Leye Faucetta
1953 - Douglas Borchard	1963 - Donna Weatherwalks
1953 - William Wostbrock	1963 - Dorinda Creamer Timberman
1953 - Alice Parmelli Kievit	1963 - Robert Branford
1954 - Barry Hazen	1964 - Marlene Hevia Hellman
1954 - Graham (Max) Baer	1964 - William Grigat Jr.
1954 - Barbara Borchard Wostbrock	1964 - Jane McCarthy, Ph.D.
1954 - June Clauz Hazen	1964 - Sam Faucetta (in Mem. of John & Joey Shallers Gibson '64)
1954 - Samuel T. Martin	1964 - Mary Anne Freeman Wichroski
1954 - Eleanor Haling	1964 - Michael Bozza (in Mem. of Joey and John Gibson '64)
1954 - Liane Dagnija Kaugerts Finch	1964 - Dolly Thie Bintz
1955 - William Gervens	1964 - Karen Crane Dunn
1955 - Susan Weyrauch Williams	1964 - Emily Freeland Mills
1955 - Angela Palumbo	1964 - Regina Konowitz Reardon (in Mem. of JoAnne Shallers and John Gibson '64)
1955 - Arline Coll Lowe	1965 - Bob Quinn
1956 - Conrad Zink	1965 - James Coutts
1956 - Marie Tyler Zink	1965 - Sandy Schllesinger
1956 - Robert Shaw	1965 - Linda Ialeggio Coutts
1956 - Claire Hissem Knight	1965 - John Burdi
1956 - Robert Knapp	1965 - Bob Jones
1957 - Jean Weeden Wilcox	
1957 - Walter Van Beers	
1957 - Robert Rosenkranz	
1957 - Linda Farnkoff Kirker	

# Scholarship Donations 2017-2018

1966 - Daniel Zotta  
1966 - Deborah Kellner Bozza (in Mem. of  
          Joey and John Gibson '64)  
1966 - Lou Rupp  
1967 - Glenn Hirschberger  
1967 - Marilyn Miceli  
1968 - Deborah Nicolosi  
1968 - Wayne Oberti, M.D.  
1968 - Katherine Ramsay Whittemore  
1968 - Edith Arnold Quigley  
1970 - Robin Rush Hooper  
1970 - Lynn Schlapfer Scarmazzo  
1971 - Allison Sheriff Hanenberg  
1971 - William Cooper  
1971 - Kevin Carroll  
1971 - Lorna McKechnie Carroll  
1972 - Karen Rupp Rennert  
1972 - Steven W. Crymble  
1972 - Rick Fream  
1972 - Pat Oberti Manfredo  
1973 - Scott R. White  
1973 - Debbie Budesheim Wickham  
1974 - Lynn Smith Cates  
1974 - Dr. Bart Donow  
1974 - Martin Vozzo  
1975 - Gina Yacco Denny  
1975 - William Maxwell  
1976 - Victoria Getty  
1976 - Tammy Taylor  
1977 - Catherine Finke Maxwell  
1977 - Tim Gillen  
1977 - Kathy Serven Rice  
1977 - JoAnne Cummins Zerby (in Mem. of  
          Charles "Charlie" Buldo '77)  
1978 - Patricia Brolsma  
1978 - Margaret Chesnulavitch McNeir  
1978 - Jim Soojian  
1978 - Debra Gay Gaveglio  
1979 - Carol Merecky Lane  
1979 - Mark Charnet  
1979 - Lou Ellen Taylor  
1980 - Dana Michael Colella  
1980 - Richard F. Schmidt  
1982 - Colleen Moyle  
1982 - Dave Shafer  
1982 - Sue Gillen Shafer  
1988 - Lorin Maletsky  
1990 - Tracey Barrett Saltenberger  
1991 - John Saltenberger  
1991 - James Comerford  
1991 - Sandra Sisco  
1992 - Diane Cluny  
1993 - Richard Fleischer Jr.  
1994 - Michael Ricker  
1998 - Kristin Brandsness Kienle  
1999 - Moira Carroll Willard  
2001 - Kristen Faucetta  
2002 - Leslie Carroll  
2002 - Kelly Quigley  
2003 - Timothy Brandsness  
2004 - Gillian Carroll  
2006 - Matthew Faucetta  
2006 - Van Soojian  
2008 - Stuart Carroll  
Staff - Joel McKenzie  
Staff - Dennis Arnold



Continued from page 5

## Pompton's Defense is Second to None

That unit got off to a bumpy start with a loss in the season-opener and had one stretch late in the year when they surrendered 14 goals over four games. But those struggles ended when the state tournament began.

"They really came together toward the end of the season," Edgar said. "We had a few hiccups along the way. But I challenged them to lock teams down. Teams that win championships don't give up goals. You don't see big high-scoring games with good teams. You can't be a team that's having shootouts with other teams. You got to lock it down in the back and they took it to heart."

There aren't many defenses close to what Pompton Lakes is doing.

Delbarton and Christian Brothers didn't allow a goal on their way to sectional titles. But those shutout streaks ended in a head-to-head matchup in the Non-Public A final.

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

Then there was South River, who technically wasn't scored on in the state tournament. However, that streak only lasted two games including a 0-0 quarterfinal loss that went to penalty kicks.

That's why Pompton Lakes' perfect record is unique.

"We know it's our last year," Dubrovich said, earlier this season. "A lot of us have been playing together since we were 6. So every game we go into, we don't lie down. Whether we go down 1-0 or up 1-0, we play our game."

## Pompton Heads to Boys Soccer Finals

(North Jersey Record)  
Nov. 14, 2017

An unbelievable shot by senior defender, Nate Tucker, during their semi-final appearance against Jonathan Dayton High School led to the game winning goal cementing Pompton's lead for good. Tucker, whose record is one goal and two assists for his varsity career, was the player coach Rob Edgar was talking about when he told his deadlocked team during the halftime break that while he (Edgar) didn't know who it would be, he felt that somebody was going to come through with a big goal late in the game. That would be Nate Tucker. Said Tucker, on his second career goal, "I'm so proud of all these boys. We worked hard this season to finally be here. Going to a state final is surreal." At 17-4-2, Pompton has extended its shutout streak to five tournament games. The Cardinals are the only active team that hasn't allowed a goal in state play.

Tucker broke through with 10:43 left in the game. Taking the ball from his own end, he found a gap between the Dayton centerbacks. While his first shot was blocked, the ball rebounded to him and he buried it with ease. Two diving saves in the 25<sup>th</sup> minutes brought senior goalie Jason Dubrovich's a total of six in the game. At two minutes left, Yianni Ekonomides added an insurance goal bringing the final score to 2-0. "I don't want to stop playing with these boys. They're my brothers. I want to keep going, all the way!" stated Tucker.

"It's just a matter of pride," stated Coach Edgar. "It's that simple. If I'm a forward, my job is to score goals. If I'm a defender, my job is to shut teams down. All of them take a sense of pride and it's not just the guys in the back. You see it collectively as a unit. Everyone works as a team. I've been here ten years. I've had a lot of good teams. But this team embodies the meaning of a team."

# Pompton Wins Boys Soccer Title

(North Jersey Record)  
Nov. 14, 2017

The story book career of Carlo Gonzalez could not get a better ending. The captain is going out a winner. As the person who has scored more goals than anyone at Pompton Lakes, Gonzalez was the overtime hero in the Cardinals 3-2 win over Glassboro in the Group 1 final. His final shot became the Golden Goal. On the 12 year anniversary of their last state title, Gonzalez's free kick from just outside the box assured Pompton the victory. As the rain fell at Kean University, Gonzalez held the trophy high over the sea of red and turning to his teammates, yelled, "Everyone put a hand on it, it's all of ours."

After taking a smooth road to the final, Pompton was pushed to the brink. It was a championship that was well earned. The Cardinals went down once and then a second time. In a new position for a team that hadn't allowed a goal throughout tournament play, the Cards battled to the end keeping their season going with just minutes to spare. Pompton found the answer for each wave of Glassboro's attack. "Every position on the field, we're solid," said junior Yianni Ekonomies. "We don't have a weak link."

On a beautiful shot from about 40 yards out, Senior Jared Allen tied the game at 1 with 19:47 left in the second half. Short lived, that score lasted only minutes when lead Bulldog scorer Sinan Tuzcu retook the lead on a controversial play. The Cardinals insisted Tuzcu's break-away should have been called offside. But the Cards came through again with 8:25 left in regulation. Bobby Jenkin's corner kick went into the box to Jason Charyak tying the score 2-2.

"These are a special group of kids. They were just resilient and relentless even though we were down and down again," said Coach Rob Edgar. "They could have caved. But they kept their heads up and kept battling. We found some big time goals." Gonzalez came up with the final one, number 74 of his career. The Cardinals had earned a free kick seconds into overtime on a handball near the box. Playing smart, Gonzalez didn't ask for 10 yards and struck the ball quickly while Glassboro was still getting organized. The shot rocketed just inside the far post. "I love that kid. He works as hard as anyone on our team or anyone that I know," said Allen. "Since freshman year, I've always looked up to him. He was always a great player and turned out to be one of my best friends. It's great to experience this moment with him."

With eight goals during the states, Gonzalez set the school record in the sectional final by scoring a hat trick. This helped the Cardinals finish the year 18-4-2 with their third state title. (1996 and 2005) Gonzalez said, "It just shows that it's our destiny. I feel like we had it easy in the sectional, but here is where the big dogs play. We just showed that we're the bigger ones."

## Jeanette Sweetman Poulson

A starched white uniform and nurses cap, white shoes and a big smile....that's how I remember Ms. Sweetman. She came to us in 1951 after the retirement of Ms. St.Ledger. We were not happy about breaking in a new nurse but that all changed. She bandaged our playground scrapes, soothed our fingers caught in doors – lockers and otherwise. She was always available to listen to our problems large and small.

Always busy, Ms. Sweetman found the time to train home aides to care for the elderly and disabled which evolved into county aid programs. She continues to be a long standing member of the Pompton Reformed Church and is still volunteering.

She is one of a kind and – at 95 – still drives occasionally giving a lift to a friend who might be walking down Colfax Avenue.

Thank you, Ms. Sweetman, for being there for us!

## Miss Audrey Cordes...Remembered



News of the passing of Audrey Cordes sparked recollections of times back to the fifties, sixties, and seventies for the older generation of PLHS alumni. Miss Cordes was part of that era and as a dedicated educator, she left her mark on students and staff alike.



**Audrey Cordes**

After having graduated from Montclair State Teachers College, Audrey began her professional career at Pompton Lakes High School in September 1945 as a history teacher with the added responsibilities of cheerleading advisor and public speaking coach. She was named as the first social studies department chairperson in the mid sixties continuing in that role until her retirement in June 1979. She was a respected colleague and personal friend to many staff members, an avid bridge player, a noted traveler throughout the United States as well as abroad, and a member of the Montclair Historical Society.

Miss Cordes's unique style of teaching knitted historical facts with interesting and fascinating highlights of various periods in history. She practiced effective classroom management, varied instructional techniques providing significance/importance of information to be learned, and was always fair and approachable treating her pupils with respect. Students delighted in her classes where history took on meaning and came alive. Adrienne Falk Levine recounts that Miss Cordes's "way of teaching made me study history and make it my career."

Miss Cordes was advisor to the Class of '51 and remained in touch with students in that class for many years following their graduation. She attended the 50's Rock 'N Roll Reunion in 2010 escorted to the event by Don Wain, '51 class member, where many former students from the 50's decade enthusiastically greeted her. Bob Thonus, senior class vice president, remembers his class advisor: "I'll always remember Miss Cordes as someone you could talk to and come away with a feeling that it was going to work out OK...she gave the feeling that she really cared. I should have made that more apparent to her." Others recall that their mentor was a dedicated advisor who inspired students to set goals and aspire to achieve them. "She was a wonderful, helpful person to all of us," recalls Joan Young Conklin.

As cheerleading advisor for nearly twenty years, Miss Cordes set high standards for her cheerleaders offering help and encouragement while devoting much time to her role as their supervisor. As a result, her squads always exhibited good sportsmanship and promoted school spirit in the true tradition that was/is Pompton High. Miss Cordes embodied the spirit of PLHS games and could most often be seen sitting on the sidelines at Hershfield Park in support of her cheerleaders while rooting for Coach Benson's Cardinal football teams.

Miss Cordes passed on August 1, 2017 at the age of 92. Those whose lives she touched will remember her with admiration, respect, and a special fondness.

CHK '56

## **Retired... Respected... Remembered...**

The year 1964 saw the retirement of six who were part of our lives.

Anna Ball came to Pompton Lakes in 1952 having taught in Franklin, Singac and Pompton Plains. She taught kindergarten and 5th grade in both Lenox and Lincoln Schools. She was a graduate of Montclair State and NYU. A volunteer at Chilton Memorial Hospital, She was also a member of the BOE in Pompton Plains.

Ena Ellis was born in England and came to the USA as a child. Her alma maters include Montclair and Newark State Colleges. She taught 2nd grade at Lenox School. She was also a member of the Central Board of Chilton Memorial Hospital, A little known fact - Mrs. Ellis rode a donkey down the floor of the Grand Canyon!

May Hosier, a graduate of Paterson State teachers College and NYU, came to Pompton from her hometown of Paterson. She is remembered as a third grade teacher with a twinkle in her eye.

Robert Ferralasco came to Pompton in 1954 starting at the new Lincoln School on the custodial staff. He was later transferred to PLHS where he remained until his retirement.

Mr. Joeckel began his career in education as a member of the BOE in 1926! He headed the building committee during the planning of PLHS, Before the new high school opened, he resigned from the committee to join the new school's staff. Mr. Joeckel was a familiar sight in the halls of the high school until his retirement in 1964.... forty four years of service to PLHS.

What can be said about Ms. Frances Reimann? She remains a legend to us who knew her. A small staircase led to her sequestered office above the second floor. To be summoned to this office was a harbinger of doom! Little did we know just how much she cared for us all. Her career at PLHS began in 1933 when she was a math teacher. She was senior class and yearbook advisor for many years. Upon the death of Thomas Hutton, Principal, she became acting principal and then assistant principal. Along the way, she became Dean of Girls in 1961, she was the school's first guidance counselor until her retirement in 1964.

Ms. Reimann never missed a day of school during her time at PLHS!! She will always be a huge part of PLHS and of our lives.

# **Preparing Students for Life Beyond High School**

## **A note from Dr. Paul Amoroso, Superintendent**

**March 2018**

Recently, the Pompton Lakes School District developed opportunities for students to learn about a wide range of careers and potential fields of study. While students typically formulate post-graduation plans during high school, the district has been focused on providing a comprehensive and cohesive approach to developing these plans as early as elementary school. During the elementary years, students are provided with a wide range of authentic learning experiences. In middle school, students select and participate in an independent learning project focused on an area of their choice. Finally, upon entering high school, students are challenged and supported to identify potential fields of study and develop a detailed and clear post-graduation plan.

The district has been using a variety of tools to accomplish this goal. The emergence and availability of digital technology has been extremely useful in the successful implementation of this program. For example, on the elementary level, students interact with individuals from a wide range of professions. During this past year, elementary school students have video chatted with a scientist stationed in Antarctica, interviewed a park ranger at Mount Rainier National Park in Washington state, received tips from a published children's author living in the United Kingdom, and interacted with a meteorologist from News Channel 12.

In middle school, these authentic learning experiences continue. Additionally, students work with teacher advisors to create and complete an independent learning project. Individual students are challenged to select an area of personal interest and develop a proposal to guide their learning. In working with a teacher/advisor, students identify learning goals and outcomes. A sampling of this year's projects include a three-dimensional design of an amusement park, the development of a toy prototype, and the mastery of a piece of classical music played on the piano. In addition to providing the means for students to explore an area of interest, the project develops a number of essential skills. Students learn to plan, test hypotheses, budget time and resources, and present their findings in an organized and cohesive manner.

Building on experiences at both the elementary and middle school levels, high school students engage in an in-depth exploration of areas of interest and potential fields of study. The high school uses a software program, Naviance, which requires students to complete personality assessments and career interest surveys. The program uses student input to provide a number of career clusters that might appeal to each individual. The program also attempts to match students with colleges/universities/technical schools that match their area of interest and other preferences.

The Pompton Lakes School District continues to adapt to meet the needs and challenges its students will face in the future. Ultimately, the goal of the district is to graduate young men and young women who are prepared for the future and ready to pursue their dreams.

# Introduction to Steady Ender

STEADY ENDER originated in 1968 as a gift to parents. Over the years it has evolved to not only her adventures in growing up but to ours...those of us of a 'certain age'. Leslie Omelianuk Zurla is a 1962 graduate of Pompton Lakes High School and a graduate of Paterson State. She lives in the Los Angeles area and is a retired producer of film commercials and concerts. Her 'retirement' consists of teaching art two days a week and collaborating on a to be distributed documentary 'For the Life of Me' Frequent visits home triggered her memories of life on Cannonball Road and of Pompton Lakes, a town bursting with shoppers, local heroes and characters.

## "10 Minutes Fast" - An excerpt from my "Steady Ender" essays -

Spring un-officially arrived when it was time to set the clocks ahead one hour. An extra hour of daylight at last! Except in our house, our clocks were always set 10 minutes fast. It appeared to be a stress reliever when we were on any kind of a schedule. "We have to hurry, we'll be late, it's already 5 o'clock!" Mom would then say, "It's only ten of...that clock is 10 minutes fast." I must tell you that it never prevented our being in a last minute rush for anything. Nevertheless, 10 minutes fast was the rule.

This time of year, the air was heavy with gasoline smells sent by Cousin Jerry's stubborn jalopy, which hadn't been started since last October. Everyone raked wet leaves, which resisted winter's chill. The smells of the burning leaves seemed to herald ice cream men, stray dogs, and after dinner strolls. Kids would find rusted dump trucks they left outside last autumn, and gramps would find his bamboo rake, warped and broken. Everyone took off their jackets when adults weren't around to tell them it was "good pneumonia weather."

Aunt Ida would tend to her peony bushes, and my cousin Ben joined his friend Turk to fly their kites in Branscomb's field. We'd watch Turk lose four of five kites every Saturday because they'd get too high and his string would break in the strong March winds.

After the air show, it was off to Faulkner's store. We bought penny gum wrapped in Cockamamies and covered ourselves with the tattoos as we went into the woods where we traded our "Bring 'Em Back Alive" cards. It seemed more adventurous to trade them under our canopied fort in the woods. Then we'd eat tiny cinnamon candies we bought at Faulkner's, which burned our tongues, and then on to the button candies, which were glued onto a strip of paper. It was impossible to get a whole mouthful of these candies because they dissolved as soon as they hit your tongue.

So were the rituals of early springtime. I went down to the river, hoping to find a couple of frogs, or a turtle, but it was still too cold and only freshly stocked trout were surfacing the stream below the dam. The water was high from the winter thaw, and the falls were pure white. The silence in the woods made me be on guard, as if something was going to happen, and it usually did. Out of the corner of my eye I caught birds sneaking from tree to tree or rabbits running into the brush and, at first, I would be startled; a little like shadows in my bedroom moving around in the middle of the night. I'd wander home and wait for the older kids to return from roller-skating. We did not have a formal skating rink, mind you...or shoe skates. Our skates were metal and our trusty skate keys were proudly strung around our necks. Our "rink" was the only smooth patch of cement left near an abandoned construction at the end of Cannonball Road.

As I was a skating "risk", I'd play house ball, or hit rocks into the woods with my baseball bat until everyone was home again. Upon their return, they'd gather by the apple tree and discuss the next game to be played. It was usually "Jump Rope." Our rope was frayed and each time it would swing around and hit the ground, you could see tiny threads fly up in the air.

There were never enough of us that we could spare two rope turners, so... One end of the rope was tied to a banister or tree, depending on where you were playing, and then a "Steady Ender" had to be chosen to turn the other end of the rope. This position is assumed for the duration of the rope games. A "Steady Ender" is usually the least skilled at jumping, or the youngest, or the kid with the foreign accent, or the one who can't do a cartwheel. I, overwhelmingly, qualified. I was always the "Steady Ender".

First game of the afternoon: One jumper at a time would jump while saying each letter of the alphabet. If they got through that without either mispronouncing the alphabet, or falling down, they would qualify to jump on one foot and say each letter of their name, first and last. My sister knew that her chubby little frame couldn't sustain all the letters in her name, "Sandra Omelianuk", so she would spell "Mae West".

After this, we'd play "Salt and Pepper." This involved one jumper at a time. A person yelled "salt," and I would begin to turn the rope very slowly. Just when the jumper was getting used to a nice slow pace, everyone would scream "PEPPER" and I had to turn the rope as hard and fast as I could and try to stumble the jumper. This was where it all fell apart. Attention spans gone! We disbanded before crankiness prevailed.

It was dusk by now, but still too early for the lightning bugs to fly. So most of us went inside to watch "Man Against Crime." I sat bravely and watched with the others, discretely keeping my eyes focused on the floor. I couldn't let them see I was afraid.

And so it went until the time came again in October to set our clocks back 50 minutes. (Just so we could remain 10 minutes fast.)

## "As September Approached"

As September approached, the afternoon shadows seemed more foreboding than those of mid-summer. Daylight hours were shorter. Time was running out....School was about to begin.

Feelings of extreme anxiety filled me as they did every year. I was sad to take the boat oars out of the locks, knowing it may be the final time, and even sadder to shop for pencil boxes and pads.

From our porch, you could see the gold dome on the high school. I wanted to skip several grades and be in high school to be with upperclassmen whose interests were more in keeping with mine.

But I had to deal with grammar school where I brought grandpa's prize dahlias to the teacher, whether I was sincere about it, or not.

We made product maps. We would be assigned a state and then pasted on symbols to represent what the state was famous for producing. If we were doing Kansas, we would paste corn to represent the produce, for Texas, something to represent oil or cattle, and so on. Our teachers also liked three-dimensional models of historical events. We made tom-toms out of coffee cans and sling shot rubber, and teepees from birch bark to honor the local Lenni-Lanape tribes of New Jersey.

Spelling bees were flagship events. The winner was always the one who could spell neighborhood. If there was still a tie we had to go on to parallel, and so on.

I was the only girl who brought linseed oil and a baseball glove to school. I played as well as any of the boys and needed the comfort knowing I excelled at something – especially when I misspelled parallel.

Outdoor games included "Hunters And Rabbits," which, now that I think of it was an omen. The girls would start running and the boys would wait ten seconds and run after them. The girls would all stop, scream, and be caught. Even the girls who could run like deer would do this. It was subservient prep; another reason I knew I'd have to escape.

"In And Out The Window" was another game. This one had a monotonous little jingle you sang as you held hands in a circle and moved around. I'm not sure what the point was, but it gave the teacher a chance to blow her whistle to signify the end of the game; otherwise we'd never know.

Now "Red Light" was one of my personal favorites. It required skill and balance. One person would start with their back to the others and count to ten. Then he or she would turn around and yell "RED LIGHT!" and if anyone was caught moving as they advanced toward the caller, they would have to go back to the start. The object was to get to the caller's position without being caught in motion. Inevitably the caller would count like this; 2,3,4,6,7,10...RED LIGHT! ...and we would be forced to freeze in positions not identifiable to the human species. But that's where the skill of the game entered.

"Giant Steps" was O.K. with a closed crowd that spoke the same language. It never worked to have a new kid be the caller. He or she may ask us to take a "Gazelle" step, which was totally foreign to us. What is a Gazelle step? Umbrella step, Scissor step, we knew...but Gazelle step? Then we'd have to stop to find out what a Gazelle step was and by the time we took the Gazelle step properly, the caller would scream, "YOU FORGOT TO SAY, MAY!!" Things like this really made the day fall apart.

But on it went, year after year. Wool clothes don't breathe well on hot Indian Summer days, and I'd sweat bullets. But the cooler autumn days would eventually arrive.

And then, as another September approached, the afternoon shadows seemed more foreboding than those of mid-summer. Daylight hours were shorter. Time was running out...

...School was about to begin.

But now, I crossed the railroad tracks and walked toward the high school with the gold dome, which was to be my school now. But I was filled with the same anxiety as years just in case.

# **50th Reunion of the Pompton Lakes High School Class of '68**

The Pompton Lakes Class of 1968 will once again be walking the hallowed halls of PLHS on Saturday, October 6th, as we tour our old stomping grounds at 10 am and share old stories, coffee and carbs. We will then be guests of PLHS at the afternoon football game at Hershfield Park. Then after nap time, we will meet again for a buffet dinner catered by The Brownstone at our beloved VFW, where we will catch up with old friends, make some new ones, and dance way past our bedtime (7 pm - 11 pm). For those of us who didn't schmooze enough last night, we will meet for breakfast at TV Time Cafe, located across the street from what once was the Colonial Theater (time to be determined by any interested parties). Although we find it hard to believe it has been 50 years, we look forward to getting the Class of '68 together once again.

## **Form Function and Design 1 and 2**

**Mr. Dennis DeCarlo, PLHS Art and Wood Shop Teacher**

### **What is Form, Function and Design?**

Form, Function and Design is a course of study that teaches the discipline of creative woodworking using framework of the NJ Visual Art Standards. It is partly based on the 20th century principle of Form Follows Function, which essentially states that the shape of an object should be based on its intended purpose. The curriculum is designed to teach students in incremental steps the skills required in fine and decorative arts design while simultaneously developing the necessary skills for technical proficiency in construction and safety.

Form, Function and Design 1 is an introductory course where the primary focus is on developing the foundation skills with an introduction to Design. Form, Function and Design 2 is a continuation course where the focus is more heavily weighted on Design.

Each level of the course is one year. Students are exposed to and explore artistic and creative expression through the production of fine and decorative art objects using wood as the primary medium.

### **What kind of projects do we work on in**

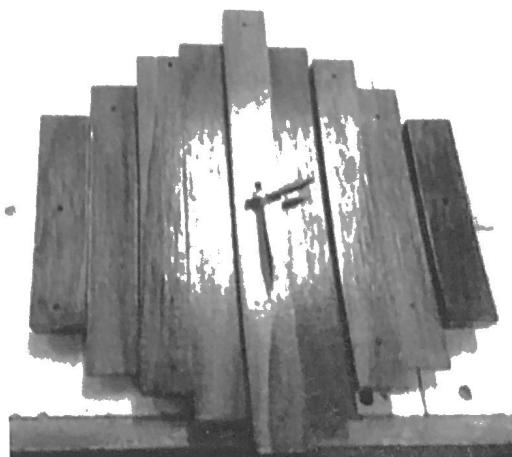
#### **Form, Function and Design?**

1. Tool/Machine Use and Safety
2. Pyrography (wood burning)
3. Jewelry Making
4. Decorative Arts and Furniture Construction
5. Design
6. Sculpture
7. Set Design and Stage Craft
8. And much much more

#### **Examples:**



Table with wood burned design Tool Box



Pyrography Clock Design



**Alumni Association  
Pompton Lakes High School  
Lakeside Avenue  
Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442**



Sam Faucetta ('64) President  
Marilee Mathes ('62) Vice President

**STAFF**

Dotty (Barnes) Barrett ('55)  
Janine Maletsky ('77)  
Lynn (Schlapfer) Scarmazzo ('70)  
Ruth (Young) Alloway ('48)  
Loma (McKechnie) Carroll ('71)  
Marie (Faucetta) Andreotta ('59)  
Lorraine (Parios) Lavoie ('57)  
Kristen Faucetta ('01)  
Colleen Moyle ('82)  
Sandy (Omelianuk) Bruno ('57)

Sam Faucetta

Kristen Faucetta

Matthew Faucetta  
56 Lenox Avenue  
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## **Note from Vincent Przybylinski, Principal**

Greetings once again from your alma mater Pompton Lakes High School (PLHS). We hope that you are enjoying the latest edition of the *Pompton Lakes High School Alumni News*.

As you may know, PLHS is enjoying its 85th year of operation. Since opening its doors in 1933, the high school has established many wonderful traditions. In fact, the morning Call to Colors and flag-raising ceremony still proudly form a part of each school day. We recognize that our alumni appreciate the upholding of long-standing rituals such as the Call to Colors. However, we also acknowledge that our alumni want to see their alma mater continue to evolve. Over the past few years, our dynamic curriculum has added exciting courses in robotics and product design, computer science, digital imaging, broadcast journalism, and digital music. Thus, many classrooms have undergone changes to accommodate these and other new programs.

One classroom which has gone through recent change is Room 101, a large classroom located near the pond hole entrance to the school building. In the past, this room has served as a sewing, math, home economics, and health classroom. However, today, it serves as the setting for our new and vibrant life skills program for students with autism and other significant disabilities. Led by special educator and PLHS alumnus Mr. Kevin Wortman '02, the life skills program has welcomed resident students as well as students from other neighboring towns. The program provides courses in language arts, mathematics, social studies, and science; it also offers other modified curricula and mainstreaming options. Since the inception of the life skills program at PLHS nearly two years ago, Mr. Wortman and our team of trained aides have developed admirable relationships with the students. Thus, students have advanced their reading, writing, computational, organizational, study, and social skills at an appreciable rate. They have also honed these essential skills outside the school through planned activities conducted in the community. In short, the life skills program has made PLHS an even greater place.

The next time you visit PLHS, perhaps on a reunion tour guided by our athletic director and alumna Ms. Colleen Moyle '82, please stop by Room 101. The students and professionals—true gifts to our school community—would love you to see their home.

Thank you for your sustained interest, care, and dedication to PLHS.

With Cardinal Pride,

Vincent S. Przybylinski, Jr., Ed.D.  
Principal



A student in our life skills program, Stephen Dornich (left) and members of the men's ensemble dazzle the audience at the PLHS Winter Concert.