

The Notre Dame Newsletter: February 2020

Where Friends Become Family



Holocaust Art Project

Mrs. Smith's freshmen art classes worked on a unit involving artists who endured the Holocaust. The students looked at artwork that reflects the atrocities of the Holocaust as well as the background of the artist, their lives as Holocaust victims, and their fates. The freshmen then chose a letter written by a Holocaust victim to his or her family and friends about their pain, hurt, and confusion. Most letters never made it to their loved ones. The art students were asked to illustrate the letter, highlighting words that added to the mood of their illustration.



Save the Date!

The Annual Notre Dame Day of Giving: March 17th
Stay tuned for details

A message from Principal Mr. Bianco



Dear Notre Dame families, alumni and friends,

As we move into the second half of the school year we are excited for our seniors who are near the end of their four year journey and strongly positioned for the next phase of their lives. They are all looking forward to the senior trip, Celebration of Gifts and Talents, and other exciting events that recognize academic achievement, outstanding character, and overall excellence! Through all of this excitement it is important that our seniors focus on school performance, completion of their senior assessment project and accumulating their 20 hours of community service which are all graduation requirements. We are all thrilled about the collective growth of our seniors and the positive impact they have had on our school, and we are committed to making the next four months an outstanding culmination of their

high school experience. Graduation will be celebrated on Sunday May 31st at 2:00pm at GCC (details to follow).

To our underclassmen we encourage you to stay focused on your academics, get involved in extracurricular activities and athletics, and enjoy every aspect of your high school experience. You, too, will soon be seniors, and you will not believe how fast the time goes... so live your ND experience to the fullest.

Special thanks to our alumni and friends for their participation in our major fundraisers, which include the Hall of Fame induction ceremony, Trip Night, Taste of ND, the Golf, Tennis and Bocce Tournament, Calendar Club, and our ND Fund drive. Thanks to you, every one of these events has been highly successful which helps to keep our school vibrant for our outstanding students. If you haven't been to the school in awhile, I encourage you to stop by and take a tour of the "New" Notre Dame.

Lastly, we are encouraging 100% participation in our ND Fund drive. If each of our 4,000 plus alumni, and our many friends, gave \$8.00 per month, we would be able to ensure vibrancy for many years and continue to provide our students a small school environment with large school opportunities.

DECA: Distributive Education Clubs of America

On December 19, DECA members headed to RIT for New York's Regional Competition. We had a record number of students qualify for State Competition with all other members making it into runner up positions. The following students will be attending the DECA State Career Conference on February 26 through the 28th at the Rochester Convention Center:

Ethan Chadbourne and Adryona Miller - Business Law and Ethics Team Decision Making

Ben Skalney and Andrew Ricupito - Entrepreneurship Team Decision Making

Jayson Reinhart - Retail Merchandising

Jose Torres - Human Resources Management Series

Maddie Payton - Human Resources Management Series

Austin Carrick - Personal Financial Literacy

Additional Members that qualified for States but not attending due to conflicts were: Montana Weidman and Jordan Welker



front: Jordan Welker, Ben Skalney, Montana Weidman, Jose Torres, Back: Austin Carrick, Jayson Reinhart, Andrew Ricupito, Adryona Miller, Maddie Payton, Ethan Chandbourne



back to front: Jose Torres, Amanda Nguyen, Nathan Brew, Ethan Chadbourne (President), Adryona Miller (VP of Leadership), Montana Weidman (VP of Finance), Alexis Danosos (VP of Marketing), Justice Yourkowski, Brandon Carrick, Ben Skalney, Andrew Ricupito, Maddie Payton, Tyler Wong, Owen Mileham, Austin Carrick, Jordan Welker, Jayson Reinhart (Vice President), Greg Narburgh, Cole Heaney(LeRoy) and Grant Gilligan (LeRoy)

This three day event is filled with competitions, conferences, elections and even a lip synch battle! There will be over 3000 kids competing from all over New York State. Winners at State's will head to the International Career Conference held in Nashville, Tennessee in April.

What is DECA?

Distributive Education Clubs of America, is a not-for-profit career and technical student organization with members in all 50 U.S. states, Washington, DC; Canada, China, Germany, Guam, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Spain. The United States Congress, the United States Department of Education and state, district and international departments of education authorize DECA's programs.

DECA is organized into two unique student divisions each with programs designed to address the learning styles, interests, and focus of its members. The High School Division includes 215,000 members in 3,375 schools. The Collegiate Division includes over 15,000 members in 275 colleges and more colleges.

The organization's mission statement is *DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.* The four components of the organization's Comprehensive Learning Program are that DECA integrates into classroom instruction, applies learning, connects to business, and promotes competition. DECA prepares the next generation to be academically prepared, community-oriented, professionally responsible, experienced leaders.



Scholastic Bowl

Scholastic Bowl Team takes a victory in February and will head to the semi-finals.

Pictured left to right: Norman March, Shawn Searls, Amanda Bergman, and John Schriener

Enviro-Thon

Notre Dame students will join other Genesee County schools in this year's Enviro-Thon. Notre Dame will be looking to get their 10th consecutive win and to move on to the state competition.

The Notre Dame students participating in this year's competition are: Nathanel Brew, Lucia Sprague, Amanda Doan, Jake Streamer, Courtney Daniels, and Aaron Treleavan.

Their mission will be to provide a solution to an environmental problem. They will have to present their project in video format for consideration.

Good luck team!

Trip Night 2020

Notre Dame Family and friends headed back to the Roaring Twenties on February 8th for the 28th Annual Trip Night!

Fun was had by all with cash raffles, costume contest, lottery vest, reverse raffle, door prizes and ALMOST \$13,000 in trips were given away, including the Grand Prize trip – a Carnival Cruise!



Thank you to Val Wadam's Chair and Kathy Antinore Event Coordinator and everyone else that helped to make the night a Roaring Good Time!!! All monies raised go towards scholarships for students!



TRIP WINNERS	
Trip #10 GRAND PRIZE CARNIVAL CRUISE	WINNER: Sue Wadam's
Trip #9 Sunway Hill Resort	WINNER: Brian Sorotoff
Trip #8 Virginia Beach	WINNER: DAN FARNHAM
Trip #7 Las Vegas, NV	WINNER: Joan Czaja
Trip #6 Poccono, PA	WINNER: David Krappa
Trip #5 Washington, DC	WINNER: Terri Calabrese
Trip #4 Splash Lagoon	WINNER: Marty & Dave Sabato
Trip #3 Lancaster, PA	WINNER: Glenn Simon
Trip #2 Bullhurst Castle	WINNER: Pat Roberto
Trip #1 Glen Iris Inn	WINNER: Josie Pilato



HONORING THE LEGACY OF COACH MIKE RAPONE

The Notre Dame family will be honoring the legacy of excellence of Notre Dame basketball coach Mike Rapone '71 with a reception in the school cafeteria following the boys Section V basketball game on Tuesday, February 25, 2020.

Coach Rapone currently has 696 career victories as he coaches in his 40th season here at Notre Dame. The 696 wins make him the all-time leader in Section V coaching victories with the second place coach more than 150 wins behind.

Mike began his coaching career at his grade school alma mater, Holy Family School in LeRoy in the 1972-73 season. During his 4 years at Holy Family he guided the team to 4 straight Parochial School League championships. Hired as the JV coach at ND at the beginning 1976-77 season he led his teams to 3 winning seasons including the only undefeated season ever produced during our time in the Bishop Smith League in Buffalo.



Mike took over the varsity team for the 1980-81 and promptly won the first of his 9 Section V Titles in his opening year. Here are some highlights of his 40 year varsity career:

- #1 in NYS active coaching victories – 696.
- #1 in Section V coaching victories – 696.
- Only coach in Section V history to win championships in 4 different classifications.
- 2 New York State Championships 1992 & 2001.
- 31 Genesee Region League Championships
- 18 Section V title game appearances with 9 championships.
- Section V Tournament #1 seed 17 times.
- 5 NYS Far West Regional Championships
- 81% career winning percentage.
- Averaging 17.5 wins per year over 40 seasons.
- 18 of 20 have earned NYS Scholar Athlete recognition.
- 2013 Team was Board 60 Sportsmanship Award Winner.
- 1996 Inducted into Notre Dame High School Athletic Hall of Fame
- 2016 Inducted into Section V Basketball Hall of Fame.

As impressive as Mike's coaching resume is, what is even more impressive is his love for Notre Dame and all her students. This is evident through his daily commitment to our school, and his constant effort to ensure that each student has the best possible high school experience. We hope that you can all join us for this celebration on February 25!

40 Items in 40 Days

The Religious Studies 9 classes are working on a **40 Items in 40 Days** challenge for Lent. After studying the meaning of Lent and the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, they are focusing on providing needed materials to two local organizations. All Babies Cherished and Crossroads House serve people at the beginning and end of their lives, so it seems fitting at Easter time to support these organizations. All freshmen have a list of items needed by each organization. If you would like to donate, please contact one of the freshmen or Miss Bodine. Our goal is to collect 40 items per organization - 80 items total! We would need the items by Wednesday, April 1st, so that we can deliver them before Easter Break. If you could help, we would greatly appreciate it!



1 Timothy 6:18: Tell them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, ready to share . . .

All Babies Cherished Wish List

- Slightly used strollers
- Double strollers
- Slightly used pack & play
- Newer models changing tables
- Infant Tubs
- Baby gates
- Highchairs/booster seats (good condition, clean)
- Baby monitors
- Boppy pillows
- Unused baby was, lotions and shampoo
- Diapers, size newborn through pull-ups
- Diaper bags
- Hooded towels and washcloths
- New pacifiers
- Crib sheets and bedding
- Blankets slightly used
- New bottles
- Wipes

- Baby food and formula unopened
- Diaper rash ointment
- Safety kit
- Maternity clothing
- Cotton swabs
- We do not accept toys

Crossroads House Wishlist

- Plastic sheet protectors
- STAMPS
- Colored copy paper: ivory and pastel colors 8 ½ x 11
- Tape for tape dispensers
- Colored 2-pocket/3-prong folders
- Letter size file folders
- Brita filters
- Regular and Decaf coffee
- Coffee creamer & half n half
- Brownie mixes
- Canned soups
- Ginger Ale, Gatorade
- Individual applesauce, fruit cups
- Antibacterial cleaning wipes
- Paper towels
- Room-deodorizing spray
- Dry and wet Swiffer pads
- Light bulbs 60 watt/40 watt
- Disposable gloves (latex free Med/Lg)
- Alcohol-free mouthwash (Biotene)
- Facial Tissues - Kleenex or Puffs Plus
- Distilled water
- Gift Cards: Office Max, Wal-Mart, Tops, Home Depot, Aldi's, etc.
- Gift Certificates: Fast food restaurants/pizza/sub shops (for visiting families)

12th annual Matthew Kota Memorial Blood Drive at Notre Dame

(as reported by The Batavian)

Genesee County residents Jason and Nancy Kota lost their son Matthew in 2008 who died at the age of 17 due to complications from brain surgery.

Twelve years later, they're still keeping his memory and spirit alive.

On Saturday, Feb. 1, Jason and Nancy Kota along with their children Sean, Sara and Tyler will host the 12th annual Matthew Kota Memorial Blood Drive in his honor at Notre Dame High School.

Time is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The school is located at 73 Union St. in the City of Batavia.

The family gathers every year, with many family members, friends and the general public, to make this blood drive a big community event and scholarships are raised for Notre Dame and Byron-Bergen Jr./Sr. High School.

The Kota family has collected 625 units in their first 11 years of hosting the blood drive in memory of their late son and brother, Matthew.

The public is invited to donate blood for this worthy cause. **Proper ID is required.** Walk-ins are welcome. For an appointment, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org

There will be a bake sale, too, and donations are accepted to benefit the Matthew Kota Scholarship Fund.

*Thank you to all who attended and supported the cause.



(as reported by The Batavian:

<https://www.thebatavian.com/billie-owens/12th-annual-matthew-kota-memorial-blood-drive-is-this-saturday-at-notre-dame/550907>)