

FALL | 2015



Saint Pius X

CONNECTIONS

**THE PIUS
IMPACT**





Saint Pius X
CONNECTIONS

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St. Pius X Connections is published by the St. Pius X High School Advancement Office.

The mission of St. Pius X Connections is to provide alumni and friends of SPX with news, information, and inspiration regarding the school and each other.




Dear Friends,

St. Pius X High School has the privilege to educate and to form teenagers who go out from here to impact the world. Within our own halls we rally around those in need in our community, most recently in concert with the Wounded Warriors Career Development Program at Sandia National Laboratory. Over the first three months of the school year, students, faculty and staff gave their time and their resources to raise more than \$6,100 that

the Wounded Warriors program directed to Paws and Stripes, an organization that trains service dogs and provides counseling to the wounded military veterans the dogs assist.

While these students may not fully comprehend it now, these opportunities to recognize needs and to give make an impact on their lives. Business owner, philanthropist and alum Mary (Goodwin) Jury '79 tells Connections magazine: "Pius allowed me to look beyond my own stuff as a teenager. It encouraged me to look outside of myself and to be compassionate with others. When one develops that in the teen years it has a very big impact in how we live our lives."

We're proud that St. Pius X High School offers our students the opportunities to stretch themselves in academics, faith, creativity, athletics and service. We hope that by taking full advantage of every opportunity, they grow into adults who mark their success by the positive impact they can have on their families, their communities and their world.

Sincerely,

Barbara M. Rothweiler, PhD
Principal

C o n t e n t s

FEATURE

The Pius Impact..... 4
Sartans past and present impact their communities with their talent, time and treasure. Learn about **Joe McGuire '64, Mary (Goodwin) Jury '79, Patrick Gallagher '81 and Tomas Tafoya '13**, along with a current student effort to help Wounded Warriors.

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ON THE COVER

Patrick Gallagher '81 is chancellor and chief executive officer of the University of Pittsburgh. "Over the years I've found that service is the one thing that has guided me through most of my adult life," Gallagher says. "You want to be part of something bigger than yourself and contribute to make the world a better place."

Goodness



Senior Matt Sluder (center) provided more than 200 blankets to the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal.

Blanket Drive Warms Winter

SPX senior **Matt Sluder** has made winter warmer for the less fortunate of Albuquerque. Sluder began a blanket drive at St. Pius X High School in October, collecting more than 200 blankets from students and staff and donating them to the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal to distribute to those in need.

"I launched this project because I am striving to serve the Lord through the poor," Sluder says. "Seeing those who are cold during the winter months moves my heart, so I long to help them."

With the help of a friend, senior Parker Willis, Sluder organized the drive, announced it to fellow students, collected blankets and delivered them to the friars at the San Juan Diego Friary for use in their ministry to the poor and homeless. The Franciscan Friars of the Renewal opened their Albuquerque friary in October 2011. Their work includes leading youth retreats and parish missions, spending time with jail inmates, and serving a hot meal in a safe place to the poor and homeless once a week.

Discipline



Senior Mariam Mohagheghi rehearses for her next dance competition.

Dancer Earns National Award

"Dance is my passion," says SPX senior **Mariam Mohagheghi**. "It's what I look forward to. It's what gets me through the day."

Studying ballet 18 to 20 hours a week led Mohagheghi to a national championship this year at a Phoenix competition in the teen division. Top ten honors at sectional and regional competition paved the way for the championship.

"It's very challenging," says Mohagheghi, whose mother danced with the Pennsylvania Ballet and is her ballet teacher. "I'm in school eight hours a day, then four hours of ballet, then homework. It has forced me to learn time management skills. And it's extremely physically demanding as you deal with your feet always being in pain."

Dancing since age 2, Mohagheghi doesn't intend to make dance a professional career. "I will dance in college, but it's more a source of joy for me than a career choice," she says.

Mohagheghi plans to study biological sciences and will apply at Georgetown, University of San Diego, Fordham and University of Denver — all of which, she points out, also have excellent fine arts programs

Knowledge

Creative Writing Student Honored

Senior **Jamal Mayhew**, co-editor of the "Akira" literary magazine, received the Florence Offermatt Doughty Memorial Award at the school's Honors Convocation in September. The award is given to an exceptional student in the art of communication.

"Creative writing (class) has helped me to develop my writing skills and I've gained a lot of confidence in that class," Mayhew says. "I was completely shocked (to receive the award), but it's great that they give this honor in the English department. It's great that they recognize the department and the talent that exists there."

Francis Doughty established the award in memory of his wife, Florence, to recognize an outstanding student who reflects the ideals that Florence Doughty held dear. She was a master of language, both written and spoken, and she raised her family to respect and embrace communications in all forms.

"As a third year member of the Creative Writing class, Jamal has carried his writing skills from his AP English classes and expanded them," says Susie Sanchez, English Department chair. "As co-editor (of "Akira"), he takes his responsibilities far beyond the classroom and works diligently to produce a publication St. Pius is very proud of."

Mayhew received a financial award towards his current school year tuition as recipient of the award. Although he's not set on a career yet, he says he will keep writing in his life.



Senior Jamal Mayhew earned an SPX award for writing.

Girls Win Third Straight Soccer Championship

The Sartan girls soccer team won its third straight state championship with a 1-0 Class 5A victory over Los Alamos. The 20-3 Sartans earned SPX's eighth overall girls soccer championship under first-year head coach **David Sullivan Jr. '02**. Junior Tatiana Limon broke the all-time assists and goals records. She set the goals in a season record at 45 and was named Class 5A Player of the Year. Senior Lourdes Padilla set the assists in a season record with 28. Earning first team All-State and first team All-District awards are goalkeeper Tatiana Sarracino (12), defender Victoria Sanchez (11), midfielders Padilla and Ciana Faulkner (12) and forward Limon. Midfielder Vanessa Hernandez (12) earned second team All-State and first team All-District awards. Earning All-State honorable mention and second team All-District honors are defender Carliegh Garcia (10) and midfielder Makayla Saenz (11). Miranda Hart (10) earned honorable mention in All-District and All-State selections.



Cross Country District Champions

The SPX girls cross country team won the district championships, with sophomore Jacqué Piñon, senior Hannah Baca and junior Jordyn DiLorenzo taking the top three spots and making the All-District Team. Senior Natasha Dark also made All-District placing 10th. The team placed third at the State Meet with Piñon in fifth and Baca in seventh earning All-State honors. The boys team placed second at the district championships, with sophomore Bryan Martinez placing ninth for All-District Honors. Martinez also led all Sartan boys as they placed 10th at the state meet.

Fall Golf Qualifies for 2016 State Tourney

The girls golf team came out and in their first tournament won first place at the APS Los Altos tournament. The Sartans went on to produce several more first place wins and qualified to compete at State in May 2016 in Farmington. Team members Ashlee Garrett, Cindy Herrera, and Kori Tellez also qualified for State competition as individuals. On the boys golf team Aidan Thomas, Parker Willis and Elijah Wyckoff shot qualifying scores along with captain Patrick McCarthy, who was the medalist with scores of 73 and 68. The boys finished the season going 5 for 5 in shooting required scores for State.

Football 10-1 Going into Quarterfinals


At press time, the No. 7 Sartan football team was headed to No. 2 Artesia to take on the Bulldogs in a quarterfinal game. The Sartans beat No. 10 Los Lunas 35-19 in a first round playoff game and racked up a 10-1 record going into the quarterfinals.



Boys Soccer Advances to Quarterfinal

Under first-year head coach **A.J. Herrera '99** the No. 6 St. Pius boys soccer team (12-7-3) beat No. 11 Los Lunas 3-1 in the first round of the Class 5A state playoffs, but lost to No. 3 Los Alamos in the quarterfinals 3-0. Forward Andres Torres (11) earned second team All-State and first team All-District honors. Also earning first team All-District and All-State honorable mention were defender Jaren Rodriguez (9) and forward Julian Garcia (10). Second team All-District and All-State honorable mention included goalkeeper Seth Matteucci (9), defender Christian Monsalve (9) and midfielder Alex Nana (10). Midfielder Clayton Bliss (12) earned second team All-District and defender Abalino Garcia (9) and midfielder Chris Nigg (12) earned All-District honorable mention.





St. Pius Volleyball Reaches Semifinals
Class 5-5A District Champion and No. 1 seed Sartan volleyball advanced to the state tournament semifinals, but lost to No. 4 Los Lunas 3-2. The team finished the regular season 18-2. Volleyball is coached by **Jeanne Fairchild '05**.



SPX to Celebrate Diamond Jubilee

APR 22

St. Pius X High School will kick off its year-long 60th Anniversary celebration with a Diamond Jubilee Gala on April 22, 2016, at Hotel Albuquerque.

"This beautiful gala will pay tribute to the 60-year success of our school and our alumni, and celebrate the bright future of our current students and recent grads," says Becky Montoya, SPX associate advancement director.

"This event is more than just a fundraiser, it is a celebration of a spectacular institution with a distinguished and admired history, in a familiar setting of amity, camaraderie and joy. All while helping secure this tradition and excellence for generations to come."

This year the Gala is serving two purposes. For this year only, it will take the place of the Annual Mardi Gras Gala fundraiser and will serve to kick-off the yearlong 60th Anniversary Celebration of St. Pius X High School. The event will include a plated dinner, entertainment, silent and live auctions, dancing and much more.

Melissa Stock, owner of MVD Express and SPX parent, says supporting the St. Pius celebration over the past five years through sponsorship has been important to her business.

"Our company doesn't exist without community support," Stock says. "So we try to support as many groups as we feel passionate

about. The St. Pius event is great exposure for your company. You reach a lot of people in the business community and in general. It comes full circle if you do it right."

Sponsorship and donation opportunities are available, as well as \$100 individual tickets. Through these funds the Gala helps bridge the gap between the school's tuition and the cost of educating a high school student.

"It is a significant challenge to grow and expand SPX, bring the high caliber of faculty and staff we need and at the same time keep costs in check," Montoya says. "We welcome anyone who would like to support high-quality, faith-based education to attend the event. You do not have to be a parent, alumni or grandparent to attend the event. The community as a whole is invited."

SPX is encouraging alumni classes to organize table purchases with people from their class in a competition to see which class has the most spirit in the support of SPX.

The SPX Diamond Jubilee Committee began meeting this fall and continues to seek current parents, past parents, alumni and sponsors to help create a memorable Jubilee celebration. Contact Becky Montoya at (505) 831-8424 or bmontoya@spx.k12.nm.us for more information on how you can help make history in the celebration of SPX's history.



Friends of St. Pius X enjoy the 2015 Gala and the opportunity to support Catholic education. Be sure to join us in 2016 to launch our 60-year celebration!

SPX Alumni

Which SPX class has the most spirit?

Organize your class to purchase tables at the Gala and be recognized for your spirit and support of St. Pius X High School.

JAN 12

Save the Date: Sartan Social

Gather with Sartans from every decade at the next Sartan Social at 6 p.m. on Jan. 12, 2016, at Ortega's, 3617 Wyoming Blvd. NE, Albuquerque.

THE PIUS IMPACT

St. Pius X High School alumni impact communities and industries around the country with their time, their talent, their perseverance and their expertise. Many of them credit lessons learned at St. Pius for their initial preparation and approach to the world. From recent grads to 50-year alums, SPX is well-represented among the impact-makers of the world. Here are the stories of just four of them.

Patrick Gallagher

“You want to be part of something bigger than yourself.”

Patrick Gallagher '81, chancellor and chief executive officer of the University of Pittsburgh, says he's racing to keep up.

“There's so much happening that's driven by other people,” he says. “I'm racing to keep up with a remarkable faculty and student body, and it fills my day with great people with lots of passion.”

Selected in 2014 to steer one of the nation's top-rated public universities, Gallagher says his job is to build on the momentum of the past 20 years' effort, which saw the university's work in research and academics impact the transition of the city of Pittsburgh from a steel town to a hub for technology, education, healthcare and financial services.

“The university is playing a unique role in the country and the region,” Gallagher says. “We're poised to educate students who have the opportunity to go out and do great things with their lives. And we want to translate our research strengths into applications that make a difference.”

The drive to contribute in a way that makes the world a better place got its start when Gallagher joined Amigos de las Americas as a junior at St. Pius X High School. Through four years with the program and summers providing health care and sanitation programs in Mexico, Honduras and Ecuador, his leadership and management skills grew.

“Amigos was a big focal point for me,” he says. “The first year I didn't know what I was getting into. It was intense and interesting training, but getting in-country was an eye-opener. It seduced me, and I kept getting deeper into the program.”

By his fourth summer he had become project director for all of Ecuador managing about 70 volunteers. Gallagher calls it the beginning of his management career.

Fr. Falbo's chemistry class and his musical production of “A Midsummer Night's Dream” also had their influence. “I think everyone who went into the sciences thanks Fr. Falbo for the role he played,” he says. “And while there are very

formative moments that happen in classrooms, so much of what happens to you is what happens between the classes. That's how you learn to stretch beyond what you're capable of and put yourself in situations that are very enriching. The most memorable moments are the ones that pushed me into new directions or that played a big part of the *esprit de corps* of being in high school.”

Gallagher went on to double major in physics and philosophy at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kan., and earn a PhD in physics from the University of Pittsburgh. He took a job as a research scientist with the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST), an agency under the U.S. Department of Commerce. Over 22 years of public service, Gallagher rose through the ranks to be nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 2009 to serve as the director of NIST. In 2013, he took on the additional role of Acting Deputy Secretary of Commerce, serving as chief operating officer for the department. He served in both capacities until June 2014, when he left for Pitt.

“Over the years I've found that service is the one thing that has guided me through most of my adult life,” Gallagher says. “You want to be part of something bigger than yourself and contribute to make the world a better place.”

His leadership within the Commerce Department came during the most significant economic downturn in the United States since the Great Depression. “There was real risk and the



calling was great,” he says. “I got a glimpse of government that people are often too cynical to see. They were some of the most dedicated people I've ever worked with.”

Gallagher says while there are obvious differences between Pitt and the Commerce Department—“Football is a pretty big difference,” he says — there are similarities. The two large and complex organizations both have important science-driven components and need leaders to align goals across the institutions, keep key people in the right positions and see the forest for the trees.

Despite the miles, Gallagher still visits family in Albuquerque. “One thing I've realized is that a lot of things change, but a love of New Mexico scenery and green chile stays with you.”

He's further reminded of his high school days at Pitt basketball games, where the riotous student section is known as the Oakland Zoo. “I'm reminded of myself in a much smaller gymnasium cheering against Bernalillo.”

Tomas Tafoya

“In that moment you are part of their lives.”

Extended and flowing. Crisp and angular. **Tomas Tafoya '13** makes his impact through movement.

“Dance really is what describes me,” he says with a wide smile. “It allows me the freedom to express what I can’t say with words — it offers me another language.”

With upcoming lead roles in the Ballet Repertory Theater of New Mexico’s productions of “The Nutcracker” on Dec. 12-24 and “The Little Mermaid” on Feb. 27-March 5, Tafoya will take the opportunity to share his love of dance with a new audience. The two professional opportunities come on the heels of Tafoya’s 2013 run with The Silhouettes, a professional shadow dance company based in Denver, and his 2014 choreography work on and role in “Shrek the Musical” for Musical Theater Southwest in Albuquerque.

Along with professional dance opportunities, Tafoya is pursuing a degree in exercise science at the University of New Mexico with an eye towards becoming a physical therapist for dancers, helping them with injury prevention and rehabilitation.

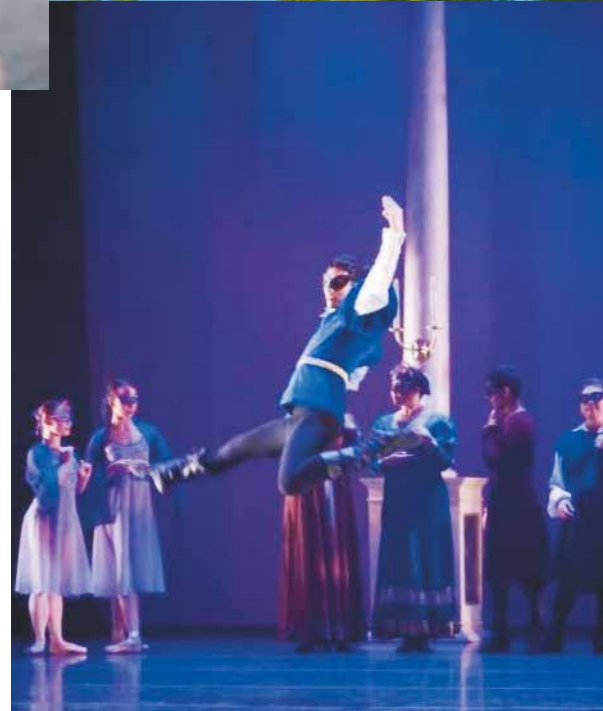
“I want to keep them from being out and get them back to doing what they love,” he says. “When dance is part of your identity, you can’t live without it.”

Tafoya took his first dance class at Sandra’s School of Dance in Albuquerque at age 6 after growing tired of tagging along to his younger sister’s dance classes. He was competing by age 9. He gave up baseball, basketball and swimming when he started high school to focus on dance.

With national competition success and skills in tap, ballet, jazz, gymnastics, musical theater, contemporary,

lyrical and ballroom dancing, Tafoya was ready the summer he graduated from St. Pius X when The Silhouettes asked him to join them for a tour of Ireland. Selected by the company’s director based on his past work with her at his studio, he gained the opportunity to travel to Ireland, Poland, Mexico, Canada and throughout the United States with the company performing in The Silhouettes’ 90 minute show called “Journey of Love,” and at Polacy z Werwa (the Polish Academy Awards), the RE/MAX R4 International Convention and Nick@Nite’s “See Dad Run.” He also has appeared in “The Nutcracker Ballet”, “Romeo and Juliet Ballet”, Disney’s “Lemonade Mouth” and “Sicario.”

Tafoya credits St. Pius X, especially teachers Jennifer Hillsey and William Gater and counselor Deborah Martinez, for contributing to his ability to produce high quality work under the pressures of time. At St. Pius X he also discovered the importance of the first impressions and beyond: “You hook the audience with the first sentences of an essay or the first 30 seconds of a dance. You bring the audience into your world and in that moment you are part of their lives.”



Mary Jury

“My ‘why’ in life continues to be to contribute to a cause greater than myself.”

For **Mary (Goodwin) Jury '79** giving back is an important part of belonging to any community you want to see survive and thrive, a lesson solidified for her at St. Pius X High School.

“My sense of community was founded there,” she says. “Pius allowed me to look beyond my own stuff as a teenager. It encouraged me to look outside of myself and to be compassionate with others. When one develops that in the teen years it has a very big impact in how we live our lives.”

Jury, owner of the Albuquerque commercial furnishing company Workspace Dynamics, is current president of Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) New Mexico, an industry networking group; and past board chair and nine-year board member of WESST, a small business

development organization. She also currently serves on the Animal Humane Association Board.

She and her husband, Vic Jury, married in 2012 and share a generous view of giving. She has joined in his annual effort to provide for the individual Christmas desires of each homeless child staying at Albuquerque’s Joy Junction during the holidays, delivering the gifts for 40 to 90 kids at midnight on Christmas Eve.

“We have a love for giving and feel it is both a duty and a privilege,” she says. “We have an obligation to give back when we’re blessed. And it’s an honor to have that opportunity.”

After a serious accident five years ago in which she was hit by a car while riding her bicycle and was seriously



Continued on Page 8

House Plans



Like many people, your house is probably the single largest asset in your estate. It represents a significant investment, something you paid faithfully for over the years. Consequently, it's only natural that you want to move cautiously in making any decisions about the future of your "Home Sweet Home." Nevertheless, you are willing to consider some new ideas.

To help you explore some of the options available to you, here are three "house plans" that involve you, your house and your interest in St. Pius X High School

The Live-In Plan

Perhaps you intend to make a major gift to St. Pius X. In fact, you would even give your house if you could. One problem: you'd have no place to live. You could, of course, simply bequeath your home to St. Pius through your will.

Another way is to give your house to St. Pius now, but retain the right to live in it for the rest of your life. This could provide you with a current income tax charitable deduction — something that wouldn't happen were you to make the transfer through your will. It would also remove the house from your estate which could possibly save estate taxes.

The Charitable Trust Plan

This house plan is great for those who need additional retirement income — and yet who still want to make a gift of their house. Here's an example of how it might work.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones have a house valued at \$250,000. They bought it for \$50,000 more than 30 years ago and now own it free and clear. Meeting with St. Pius's director of advancement, they learn they can divide the deed and put part of the house into a charitable remainder unitrust while retaining the other part to sell for cash to buy a condominium.

They like the idea that the trustee will assume the major role in selling the property, thus relieving the Jones of this hassle. Once sold, the trustee will invest the trust's share in securities to provide a life-time flow of income for Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

Additionally, since the trust is a charitable trust, Mr. and Mrs. Jones will obtain an income tax charitable deduction which they can apply against their taxable income.

The Part-Give, Part-Sell Plan

This option is similar to the previous one, except there is no charitable trust involved. The donors divide the deed and give one part to St. Pius. The donors and St. Pius then sell the house, each receiving their share of the proceeds. Because part of the deed goes to a qualified charity, the tax benefits are quite favorable.

As with most gift plans, there are variations to this plan providing an array of possibilities. In fact, the options are nearly endless.

The main point to all of this is to let you know there are various ways to use your house to meet your own needs as well as those of St. Pius. Steve Ross, Advancement Director, will be happy to discuss all of this with you and to provide various illustrations to show you more fully how planned giving and house planning can go hand-in-hand.

You can call Mr. Ross for more information at (505) 831-8423 or you can use the handy coupon below. There is, of course, no charge for his services.

Dear Steve:

- Please send me free literature about planned giving.
- Please contact me about a personal visit or other assistance.
- I have already provided for St. Pius X in my will or other estate-planning document.
- Please send me information about the Sartan Heritage Society.

Please complete and return this reply form.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Mail this form to | Steve Ross, St. Pius X Foundation | 5301 St. Joseph's Dr. NW | Albuquerque, NM 87120



ANNUAL FUND

Donate today, make a difference tomorrow!

How the Sartan Fund Works for St. Pius

The Sartan Fund is the single largest source of annual support to St. Pius X High School outside of tuition. The Sartan Fund helps provide tuition assistance to 270 students. It also helps with school operations such as capital improvements, athletic projects, faculty continuing education, and fine arts programs.

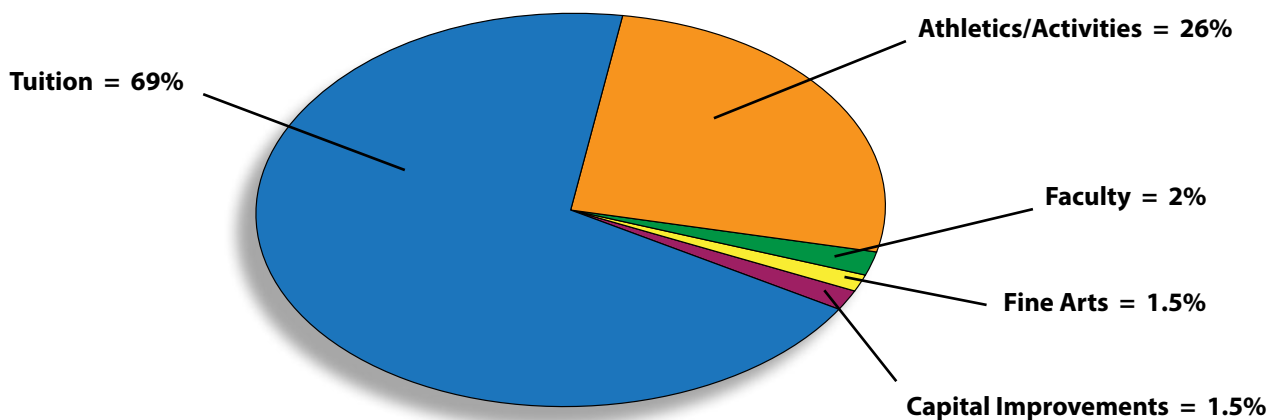
Last year annual contributions to the Sartan Fund by alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty and staff provided approximately \$175,000 in support to St. Pius X. With your help, the Sartan Fund aims to grow each year and continue its mission to provide quality Catholic education through St. Pius X High School.

Tuition assistance is the single greatest need for private

funds at St. Pius. The average assistance awarded to a deserving student for the school year is approximately \$3,500. Private support also helps the school to maintain an affordable tuition thereby enabling every student who attends to experience the outstanding college-preparatory and faith-formation mission of St. Pius X High School.

We count on you to consider making your gift to this year's Sartan Fund. You can respond with the enclosed envelope, to a direct appeal that comes your way in the mail, personal contact from the Sartan Fund Committee, or from a call by one of our students during our Phonathon. Again, your support is most crucial and greatly appreciated.

Sartan Fund \$175,000



injured, Mary quickly learned what it meant to rely on a community of friends and family.

"I needed other people in a way most people don't ever experience," says Jury, who was confined to a wheelchair for eight weeks and still is not cleared to drive. "I have an overwhelming sense of gratitude for the outpouring of love I've received."

Jury says her innate ability to find a lesson, a blessing or a new perspective in a situation was heightened by her traumatic experience. "And my 'why' in life continues to be

to contribute to a cause greater than myself," she says.

A track star at Pius — she still holds the record for the long jump and the 100-meter hurdles — Jury earned a track scholarship to the University of Arizona. She ran for two years at U of A, had a son, and then ran two years at the University of New Mexico. She petitioned the NCAA to be allowed a red-shirt year for the time she sat out for her pregnancy. They called it a voluntary injury and denied her petition. She kept running anyway.

Jury, the mother of two adult sons and step-mom to

a son and 2 daughters with two grandchildren, started her business 16 years ago. And while furniture can be heavy, she likes to keep the atmosphere light. Her business's tagline is "Saving the world one ugly space at a time."

"We like to bring a little humor into what we do," she says. "We believe people's space is a reflection of who they are and that it has an impact on their success. We want to inspire success in every space we touch."

Joe McGuire

"Air traffic controllers were looking at blank screens for the first time in their lives."

When **Joe McGuire '64** arrived at work in the Federal Aviation Administration's System Management Office in Albuquerque on Sept. 11, 2001, it was a typical Tuesday. An assistant manager with the office responsible for approximately 11,000 ground-based equipment, facilities, and systems used by air traffic controllers and pilots in New Mexico and West Texas, McGuire was the only manager in the office that day. The other three were out of town for meetings, and he was tasked with conducting the scheduled 6:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. conference calls to regional headquarters and to field supervisors.

While on the first conference call from 6:30 to 7:10 a.m., people began arriving to work talking about news reports of a plane crash in New York City.

"Our immediate reaction was that it was a bad accident," McGuire says. "None of the FAA offices had television feeds or internet that time. Everything we needed to know about came to our office through the U.S. Mail, e-mail, phone or pager."

McGuire remembered that a secretary in the office kept a small television in her desk to watch on her lunch break. He pulled it out and started watching network news coverage. "I watched in disbelief," he says. "And I thought, obviously something tragic has happened. We don't know the cause, but we have to be on alert and make sure our communications are intact."

He decided to continue with the 7:30 a.m. conference call knowing the crashes in the East were not under his office's control and that their initial efforts would be best spent making sure the equipment for which they were responsible was operating correctly.

Over the course of a typical Tuesday's conference calls, between 6:46 a.m. and 8:03 a.m. local time, two commercial airliners had crashed into the World Trade Center's two towers in Manhattan, another into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and a fourth in a field in Stony Creek Township, Pa. A total of 2,977 people were killed in what was later

determined to be a terrorist attack against the United States orchestrated by al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. Also during that span of time, at 7:45 a.m., the first unplanned shutdown of U.S. airspace commenced as the FAA ordered more than 4,500 aircraft to land at the nearest airport as soon as practical. While air traffic controllers at the Albuquerque Air Route Traffic Control Center were clearing the skies over the Southwest, McGuire coordinated his staff's travel to and securing of all long-range, remote radar sites that provide data to the various Air Route Traffic Control Centers they served. They quickly established rotating crews at the typically unstaffed facilities to maintain security of the equipment and the system. By 10:15 a.m. the airspace over the continental U.S. was clear of all commercial and private flights.

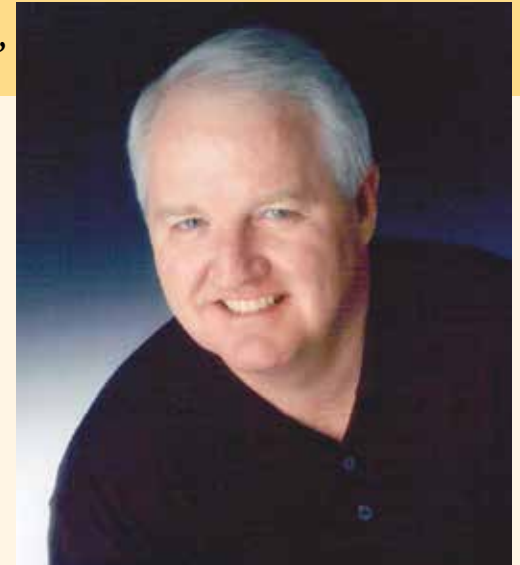
"Within four to five hours everything was calm," McGuire says. "Air traffic controllers were looking at blank screens for the first time in their lives."

McGuire downplays the importance of his individual impact on 9/11, but acknowledges the role he played in the national response.

"Having come into the system 28 years earlier and getting a varied degree of experience and responsibility, I could take pride looking back that the facilities and systems worked as they should have," McGuire says. "The equipment performed flawlessly, allowing controllers to take the directive to clear the skies and do what had never been done before or since."

McGuire sees his path to the FAA beginning at St. Pius in now-Monsignor Francis Eggert's physics club. "As I got through my senior year, I found the humanities came fairly simple for me, but I was attracted to sciences," he says. "Physics club got me interested."

McGuire received an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy where he studied electronics. His U.S. Navy assignments in surface ship weapons and anti-submarine divisions were focused in electronics. Leaving the Navy in



1973, he applied to the Civil Service Commission and landed a job back in Albuquerque with the FAA, again putting his electronics experience to work.

McGuire retired in 2003 from what he calls a remarkable career. "I don't think I could have made a better choice," he says. "My career unfolded for me from Pius to the Navy to the FAA. Each stage allowed me to go on to the next."

He's using his retirement to pursue his interests, travel, and spend time with his family. McGuire served on the St. Pius X High School Alumni Council from 2006 to 2014 and he keeps current the contact list for the class of 1964, which meets every summer and has a standing monthly lunch date. He has sung with Albuquerque choral groups since 1993. He has also served in the positions of treasurer and secretary of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association, New Mexico Chapter.

In May, 2007, his choir performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City, and he visited the Ground Zero site, a fenced off, raw hole in the ground at that time.

"It was an interesting experience to see what was the footprint of the World Trade Center; I was surprised at how small it was," he says. "And I remembered the scene of walkers leaving Manhattan on the Brooklyn Bridge. I walked that route and I could see how that was done. Seeing it was eerie."

SPX Impacts Wounded Warriors Project

Striving to impact community begins well before students graduate from St. Pius X High School. Over the summer and early fall of 2015, SPX students, faculty and staff raised more than \$6,100 in support of the Wounded Warriors Career Development Program at Sandia National Laboratories. The Wounded Warriors program directed the funds to Paws and Stripes, an Albuquerque-area organization that provides integrative service dog training and mental health support to veterans and their families.

The funds were presented Nov. 11 during a school Mass honoring military veterans on Veterans Day. They were received by Sean Christopher of the Wounded Warriors Career Development Program at Sandia and Laura Smith of Paws and Stripes.

Smith said a \$6,300 scholarship donation to Paws and Stripes covers a complete nine- to 12-month therapeutic training curriculum for a veteran and dog team, which St. Pius X's donation comes close to covering. Service dog trainers meet with veteran-dog teams weekly, while Paws and Stripes also provides counseling specific to families integrating service animals into the home. Veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury learn to better understand their individual symptoms or triggers and use their service dog as a tool to assist them to better cope. All dogs in the program are adopted from local shelters.

Also attending the Mass from the Wounded Warriors Career Development Program with

Christopher were Gabrielle Holcomb and Rob Mitchell, all former U.S. Army sergeants now employed at Sandia. Mitchell explained that the program at Sandia provides employment and educational opportunities to combat disabled veterans. "Many of our peers at Sandia went to college out of high school, while we went to the military," Mitchell said. The program provides veterans a support structure for two to three years as they transition from military to civilian life and hires five to 10 wounded warriors each year.

SPX Deacon Rene Greivel and Christopher presented the opportunity to support Wounded Warriors to teachers last summer at their faculty and staff retreat.

"Our kids don't really have a concept of what it means to have served the way these veterans have," Greivel says. "This gives them a chance to see, meet and talk to them. It may change a few lives."

Football coach and teacher San Juan Mendoza immediately offered the funds that his team would raise cleaning a vacant lot. Business teacher and DECA advisor **Robyn Dow '98** offered a list of fundraising projects that other teachers could take on with their classes.

With the support of faculty and staff, funds were raised in many ways. Students organized bake sales and classroom donation buckets. Donations were taken up from fans at football and volleyball games. The Athletic Booster Club and Alumni Council sponsored a Homecoming raffle.



Gabrielle Holcomb, Sean Christopher, Rob Mitchell of the Wounded Warriors Career Development Program at Sandia National Laboratories and Laura Smith of Paws and Stripes appreciated St. Pius X's donation of more than \$6,100 in support of combat disabled veterans.



A special Veterans Day mass at St. Pius included a military color guard, with students providing the drum cadence to begin the mass and the playing of taps to end it.



St. Pius X celebrated a Masquerade Homecoming the week of Sept. 21. Homecoming Queen Marisa Trujillo and King Zach Morrison (center) were crowned during coronation, along with (front, from left) 2nd Princess Dominique Rivera, 2nd Prince Jacob Carpenter, 1st Prince Alex Sais and 1st Princess Kulani Gonzales-Stocks. The sophomore class took first prize for their Viva La Carnival float. The SPX Dorados came out to support the Sartans as they beat Gallup's Miyamura High School 38-15.



Homecoming Honors Class of '65

Class of '65 members **Rick Bressan, Charles Pascetti, Carlos Martinez, Marlow Fisher Cata and Al Cata** received their class composite photo at halftime of the 2015 Homecoming football game from the St. Pius X Alumni Office. Honored as this year's 50-year class, members from the class joined the Athletic Boosters, the Fine Arts Boosters, the Alumni Council and fellow alumni at the breakfast tailgate prior to the game. The 1965 composite photo of all the '65 grads will be placed on display at St. Pius.

CLASS OF '75



Members of the St. Pius Class of 1975 gathered for their 40th reunion Sept. 18-19 and had special t-shirts printed proclaiming they were "75 and Alive."

ST. PIUS X
75
AND "ALIVE"

Armijo-Brasher Named Outstanding Alum



Jorja Armijo-Brasher '64 is the recipient of this year's Outstanding Alumnus Award from St. Pius X High School.

"Jorja Armijo-Brasher has devoted her career to serving others, most recently in her role as the Director of Senior Affairs for the City of Albuquerque," says Steve Ross, SPX advancement director. "The Outstanding Alumnus recognizes St. Pius grads who have distinguished themselves in their careers and is a fitting tribute to Jorja's contributions to our community."

In 1970 Armijo-Brasher stepped in on the ground floor of early childhood education in Albuquerque, helping to start the first public school kindergarten programs in the city. Her 30-year career in early childhood education progressed to teaching teachers best practices and advanced to oversight of APS's early childhood programs. In 1989 the City of Albuquerque selected Armijo-Brasher to manage a comprehensive child development program grant focused on helping families break the cycle of poverty. In 2000, in what looked like a 180-degree turn, Armijo-Brasher accepted the position of director of the city's Department of Senior Affairs.

"I looked at it from the perspective that I wasn't leaving early childhood, I was wrapping my experience around the whole family," Armijo-Brasher told "Connections" magazine in 2013. "I've had the opportunity in my career to develop an awareness of how to honor the growth and development of people throughout the life cycle."

The Department of Senior Affairs provides activities and opportunities to promote active and healthy aging to those 50 years of age and older. Armijo-Brasher oversees an annual budget in excess of \$13 million, 200 employees, and six senior centers, two multi-generational centers, two senior sports and fitness centers and 19 nutrition satellite/meal sites.

"As I look back on my life and career I know that I owe my passion for public service to my parents and my Catholic school upbringing," Armijo-Brasher says. "I will always be grateful for the high expectations that were set for me at home and by the administration, the teachers and my classmates at St. Pius X. I will always treasure the time spent at St. Pius X in the class of 1964."

The award will be presented at the SPX Diamond Jubilee Gala on April 22, 2016.

Dalys Receive Vincioni Award

For their generous support of graduating seniors, St. Pius X High School presented the 2015 Julio Vincioni Memorial Award to **Linley (Brummell) Daly '84** and her husband **Michael Daly**.



“Linley and Mike Daly are wonderful examples of individuals who give of themselves both with their time and their philanthropy,” said Steve Ross, SPX director of advancement. “They are fitting recipients of this year’s Vincioni award whose name honors an individual who gave generously with his time and money in order for his children and others to experience quality Catholic education.”

Eleven years ago the Dalys established the Circle of 7, designed to help a senior who faced leaving St. Pius because of the family’s financial situation. With tuition then at \$7,000 a year, each member of the circle contributed \$1,000 to support that senior. The anonymous group has now grown beyond seven members and has helped more than 25 deserving students preserve their St. Pius educations.

“The Circle of 7 is about the Sartan community coming together to support St. Pius students in their time of need,” Michael says. “We’re committed to getting them through.”

“As parents of Catholic school students, we recognize that sending kids to Catholic school is difficult for families,” Linley adds. “We want to honor the sacrifices they’ve already made and give them that help, through good times and bad.”

Linley has utilized 25 years of professional for-profit and non-profit experience to found DalyConsulting LLC, which provides non-profit professional consulting. Michael is a senior vice president at Morgan Stanley in Albuquerque. They are proud parents to **Lauren '14**, Ryan and Maya.

The Vincioni Award was established by the St. Pius X High School Foundation in 1991 and recognizes exceptional service and significant contributions to the school. It honors Julio Vincioni who gave selflessly of his time and energy to St. Pius for 20 years until his death in 1990. Julio had six children graduate from St. Pius, was a member of the Athletic Booster Club, Pi Dads baseball team and St. Pius X Foundation, and was a co-chairman of the Foundation’s annual fundraiser. He was devoted to the principles and ideals of Catholic education.

Tinnin Golf Classic Supports SPX



Megan Tinnin, Courtney Tinnin, Shane Austin and Tom Tinnin enjoyed the 2015 SPX Jamie Tinnin Golf Classic.

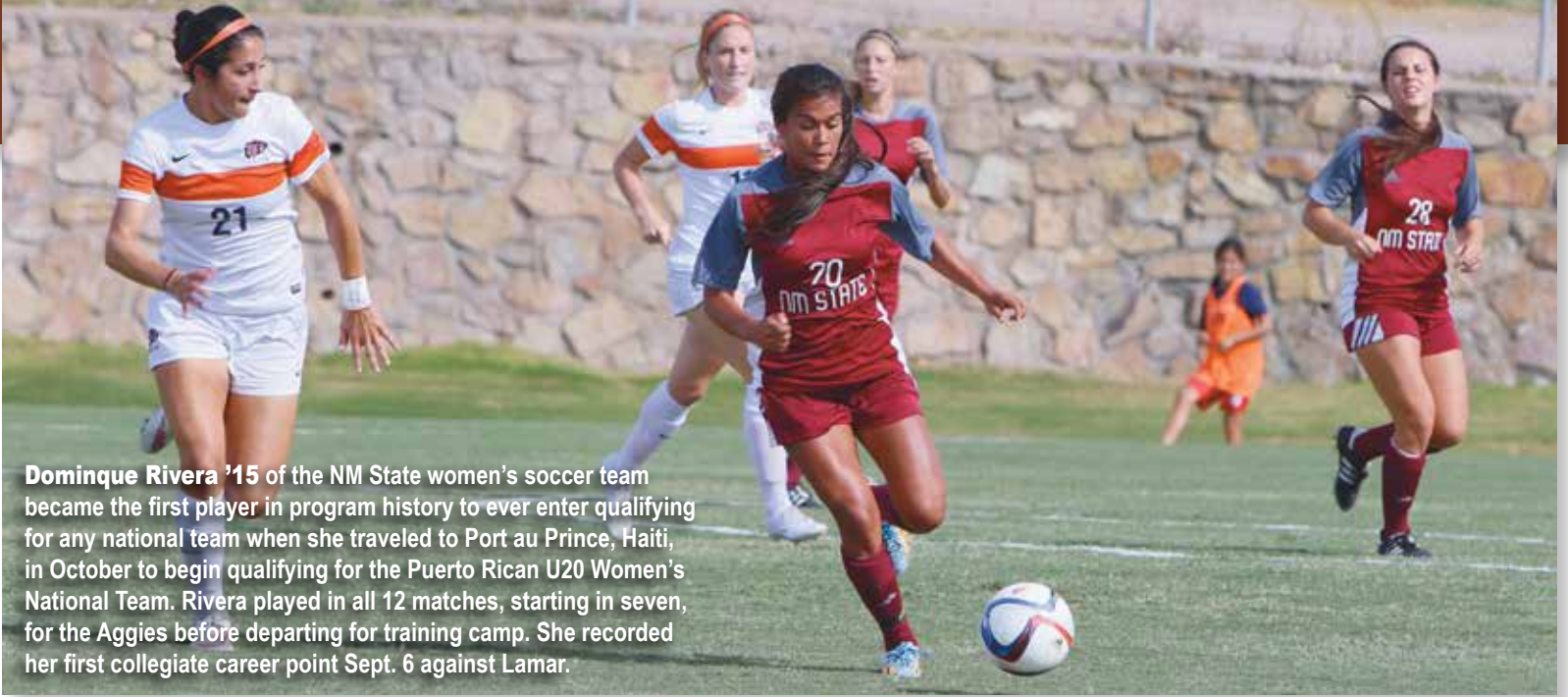
The 2015 SPX Jamie Tinnin Golf Classic brought together friends and supporters of St. Pius X High School to earn gross proceeds of more than \$36,000.

Sponsored by Tinnin Enterprises and organized by the SPX Alumni Council and Athletic Booster Club, the Classic was held Sept. 25 to support tuition assistance and athletics at St. Pius. The morning at Isleta Golf Resort started off with registration, breakfast burritos, a golfer’s prayer by Deacon Rene Greivel and welcoming remarks by Dr. Barbara Rothweiler. Great weather and camaraderie were capped off with an awards luncheon emceed by Joe Biondi, father of **Lexi '13** and **Sophia '18**.

The Classic is held in memory of the late Jamie Tinnin. Tom Tinnin and his family have generously supported this event by being its premier sponsors for past five years. Jamie was the wife of Tom and the mother of **Megan '06**, **Courtney '08** and Robbie. In October of 2009, Jamie lost her battle with breast cancer. Jamie dedicated most of her life to the support of her husband and children and their endeavors. Megan was a standout basketball player for the Sartans and went on to play basketball for the University of Hawaii as one of their star performers and graduated with honors. Courtney was a high school All-American in soccer for the Sartans and went on to Arizona State where she played soccer and graduated. Son Robbie was a standout football player at Menaul High School and played college ball. All three of Jamie’s children now work for Tinnin Enterprises.

Thank you to all our participants, volunteers and sponsors.

Premier Sponsor: Tinnin Enterprises. Cap Sponsor: Evergreen Electric Contractors. Hole-In-One Sponsor: Quality GMC Buick Mazda. Trophy Sponsor: Rocky Mountain Stone/New Mexico Travertine. Photography Sponsor: Moji Photography. Eagle Sponsors: Terry Gomez, DDS; Morgan Stanley; Mutual Drilling Co.; Isleta Resort & Casino. Birdie Sponsors: Berger Briggs; Tremco; Matt Wildau. Tee Sponsors: Buffets Candies; Salazar, Sullivan & Jasionowski.



Dominique Rivera '15 of the NM State women's soccer team became the first player in program history to ever enter qualifying for any national team when she traveled to Port au Prince, Haiti, in October to begin qualifying for the Puerto Rican U20 Women's National Team. Rivera played in all 12 matches, starting in seven, for the Aggies before departing for training camp. She recorded her first collegiate career point Sept. 6 against Lamar.

1970s

John A. Menicucci Sr. '70 was recently recognized by Catholic Charities of New Mexico as a recipient of their Hands of the Holy Spirit Award for his selfless service of over eight years to the Catholic Charities Board of Directors and for personal and professional commitment and response to God's call to action in the community. He is the managing partner at Berger Briggs Real Estate in Albuquerque.

2000s

Zach Ulibarri '08 graduated *summa cum laude* with a double major in physics and electrical engineering from Northern Arizona University. To celebrate his accomplishments, he rode his bicycle across the United States on the TransAmerica Bike Trail in a 10-week, 4,672.1 mile trip from Yorktown, Va., to Astoria, Ore. Read his trip blog at The Adventures of Barriboy (barriboy.wordpress.com). He is currently working on his PhD in plasma physics at CU Boulder.

1990s

John A. Menicucci Jr. '94 recently joined the Union Pacific Railroad legal team as a corporate and finance attorney in Omaha, Neb. He will work with the Union Pacific legal team in advising the Senior Management and Board of Directors of the company with respect to corporate governance, securities and finance drawing upon his prior experience from private practice at national law firm Husch Blackwell LLP. Menicucci also serves as an adjunct professor teaching securities regulation at Creighton School of Law. Last year he was chosen one of the Ten Outstanding Young Omahans by the Omaha Jaycees through the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. On June 1, 2015, he became the youngest attorney in age and years of practice of known record to assume the presidency of the Omaha Bar Association.



Save the date!

CLASS OF '66

September 22-25, 2016, will be the 50th class reunion for the graduating class of 1966. The reunion committee is working on events, but the highlights will be: a party on Friday evening, a dinner/dance on Saturday evening, and a Mass on Sunday with lots of events in between! **For more information, please contact Phyllis at stpius1966@gmail.com**

Share your news

We're looking for the latest news about you. Send us information and photos about accomplishments, new jobs, fun experiences, engagements, marriages, new additions to the family, and retirements. We'd love to feature you in the Alumni Notes or the Alumni Profile.

Send your news and photos to

speditor@outlook.com

2010s

Stephen Sloan '10 earned the State of New Mexico Tax & Revenue Department's 2015 3rd Quarter Employee/Leadership Excellence Award. Sloan is a first year auditor with TDR who in less than 10 months exceeded his annual goals and tackled major projects. A 2014 University of New Mexico graduate, he was recently promoted to Auditor III and is studying for his MBA at Highlands University.



The University of Kansas has nominated **Jessica van Loben Sels '12** for the Marshall Scholarship, a prestigious fellowship which provides funding for graduate study at any university in the United Kingdom. Van Loben Sels, the daughter of James and Monique van Loben Sels, is a microbiology major researching the herpes simplex virus. She said she hadn't considered studying in the United Kingdom until she learned of the scholarship opportunity, and she enjoyed interacting with the researchers she met during the application process. "I hope to have the opportunity to work with them and further advance my scientific understanding," she said. "I aim to conduct therapy-oriented research later in my career, so working with such accomplished scientists in the United Kingdom would play an instrumental role in my professional development." She is a member of the University Honors Program and the 2014 University Scholars Program, and she is a recipient of the K-INBRE research fellowship in 2014 and 2015. Van Loben Sels was named a 2015 Goldwater Scholar and an Astronaut Scholar.



St. Pius X creates friends for life!

Do you and your closest friends all bleed black and gold?

Connections wants to tell the story of St. Pius friendships that have stood the test of time. Contact the editor, Melissa Sais, at spxeditor@outlook.com and tell us your story.

In Memory

Martin F. Barker, age 68 of Albuquerque, died Oct. 12, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Annette F. Barker; and children **Francine Barker '92**, Tom Barker and Maddie Barker.

George Bon Salle, age 80 of South Miami, died July 20, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Jeanne Marie; children, Andrew, **Bradley '03**, and **Jaclyn '06**; and three grandchildren.

John Allister Campbell '65, age 68 of Albuquerque, died April 26, 2015. He was a proud, disabled (Purple Heart) veteran of two tours of duty in Vietnam. He is survived by his sister, Connie Poore; his nephew, Jim Gustafson; niece, Heather Gustafson Beckman; as well as best friend and neighbor, Nancy Cox Brouillard.

Priscilla DeBlassie, age 85 of Albuquerque, died Aug. 3, 2015. She is survived by six children, Dr. Paul DeBlassie III, **former SPX Foundation Board Member Joanna DeBlassie Boothe**, Joseph DeBlassie, Ronald DeBlassie, Mark DeBlassie, and Kenneth DeBlassie; and 18 grandchildren including **Stephanie Sponder '04**, **Caroline Boothe '09**, **Marysa DeBlassie '09**, **Joseph DeBlassie '12**, **Julia DeBlassie '14**, and **Dominic DeBlassie '19**.

Dianne Sei DeAngelis '65, age 67 of Albuquerque, died Aug. 11, 2015. She is survived by her husband **Roger DeAngelis '65**; daughters **Nicole DeAngelis '91** and **Emilie DeAngelis '93**; and three grandchildren.

Helen Bracewell Doolittle, age 90 of Albuquerque, died July 24, 2015. She is survived by sons **Tom '68**, Joe, Paul, Craig, and Mark; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Olive May (Quinn) Eversgerd, age 104 of Albuquerque, died Oct. 28, 2015. She was a teacher at Queen of Heaven, Annunciation, St. Pius X High School and Holy Ghost, where she finished her career as principal. She is survived by her son, Andy Eversgerd; daughter Grace Curtiss; two granddaughters; five great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandson.

Jack Fishman passed away. He is survived by his wife **Stephanie Eagle '74** and daughter **Leah C. Mortonson '99**.

Mary Nieri Franchini of Albuquerque died Aug. 12, 2015. She is survived by her five children **John Franchini '63**, Tom Franchini, **Teresa Franchini '77**, **Kathy Franchini '78** and **Lisa Birchler '85**; twelve grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Patricia A. Krek, age 81 of Albuquerque, died March 16, 2015. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Frank T. Krek; two sons, **Mike S. Krek '74** and **John T. Krek '77**; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Margaret Ann Baerst McClure (Peggy), age 69 of Albuquerque, died Oct. 12, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Bruce; sons, **Gideon '94** and **Seth '91**; and four grandchildren.

Robert "Bobby" C. McCoy '84, age 49 of Albuquerque, died Oct. 29, 2015. McCoy is an alumnus of St. Therese Catholic School, St. Pius X High School, UNM Civil Engineering and UNM Anderson EMBA programs. He was a professional engineer for the New Mexico Department of Transportation for 23 years. His survivors include his parents, Valentin and Dolores Gertrude McCoy; maternal grandmother, Isabel Aragon; sister, Valerie McCoy; and brother, Brian McCoy.

Adeline Purchase, age 87 of Albuquerque, died in October 2015. Her survivors include daughters, Barbara Williams, **Lori Greth '78**, Sharon James, and Donna Gillingham; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Captain Matthew David Roland, USAF, age 27, died on Aug. 26, 2015, as a result of injuries sustained in combat in Afghanistan. Roland was a freshman at St. Pius X High School in 2002-2003, a 2010 Air Force Academy graduate and a member of the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron at Hurlburt Field, Florida. His survivors include his parents, Col. (Ret.) USAF Mark and Barbara Roland; sister, **Erica Roland '00**; and niece, Willamina Roland.

Gloria Chavez Tristani, age 89 of Bethesda, MD, died July 16, 2015. She is survived by her son **SPX faculty member Jorge E. Tristani, Jr.**; her son Dennis C. Tristani; and her daughter Maria Gloria Tristani; nine grandchildren including **Michael Tristani '92**, and two great-grandchildren.

For alumni, donors and friends of St. Pius X High School

FALL | 2015



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