



St. Sebastian Parish School
ALUMNI
 ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

Summer 2015

Summer Projects at the Parish

This summer has been a flurry of activity on campus, both inside and outside. While the largest project was the restoration of the Brick Parking Lot, there were many other projects taking place throughout the campus this summer as well. Take a look at our changes:



Removed concrete circle drive on Mull Avenue to help with water mitigation



The Completed New Brick Parking Lot!
 Funded by the generous donors to the Brick Fund and the Rooted in Faith Campaign



Construction view from the entrance, looking towards the playground.

A Few Brick Facts:

There were 25 semi-trucks of bricks delivered

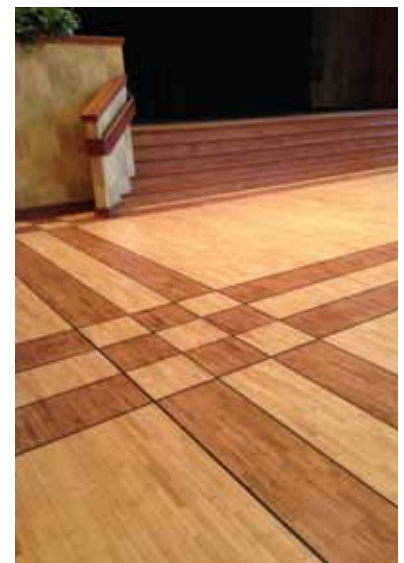
There were 18 pallets of Ohio Belden Bricks on each truck

Each pallet had 408 bricks stacked on it

The parking lot required nearly 183,600 bricks, 4.5 bricks cover about one square foot



Fr. Valencheck cutting the ribbon to open the parking lot to cars!



Refinished Zwislser Hall floor

con't on the back page

Thank you!

St. Sebastian Parish thanks Fr. Kovacina for his time at the Parish! For the next four years he will be the parochial vicar of St. Anthony Parish in Parma.



Fr. Charles Byrider Education Endowment

Recently the Hatton nieces and nephew, **Carol Dies**, **Bob Hatton '62**, **Katherine Hatton '66**, and **Lori Rasmussen '77**, honored the legacy of Fr. Byrider with a donation from the *Katherine Hatton and Richard Bilotti Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation* to the St. Sebastian Parish Fr. Charles Byrider Education Endowment on the 100th anniversary of his birth. Thank you to Carol, Bob, Katherine, and Lori for your generosity.

Alumni Scholarship Endowment News

Thank you to **John Reichart, '57** and **Thomas Yakubowski, '77** who recently gave to the alumni scholarship endowment:

If you would like to continue to build the Alumni Scholarship Endowment to help even more students, please send your tax deductible gift to:

*St. Sebastian Parish Foundation
Alumni Association
476 Mull Avenue
Akron, OH 44320*

Congratulations Foundation Scholarship Winners for 2015-16

AOH Minority Arrow Scholarship

Taylor Foster

BSA Troop 96 Scholarship

George Berger

Frances L. Sharp Scholarship

Nicholas Senko

Dayspring Opportunity Scholarship

Brianna Foster

GOAL Scholarship

Vita Dee Hershberger

Jacob Pentasuglio

Jimmy Thomas

St. Anthony Scholarship

Sydney Borges

Cassia Chivers

Jimmy Thomas

Megan Williams

Gerstenmaier Family Scholarship

Caroline Hummel '15

If your family would like to start your own scholarship or contribute to an existing fund to support St. Sebastian Parish School students, please contact scholarships@stsebastian.org.

Sebastian's School Garden

The St. Sebastian School and Community Garden is having another great growing season! This spring, the big project in the garden was to add ten more raised beds in the garden. This was done for maintenance, appearance, and ease of gardening with the school students. Once the raised beds were built by parent volunteers, they were filled with dirt and finally the students came over for some gardening time! This year some of the veggies that were planted are beans, cucumbers, squash, eggplant, lettuce, peppers, tomatoes, watermelon and more.

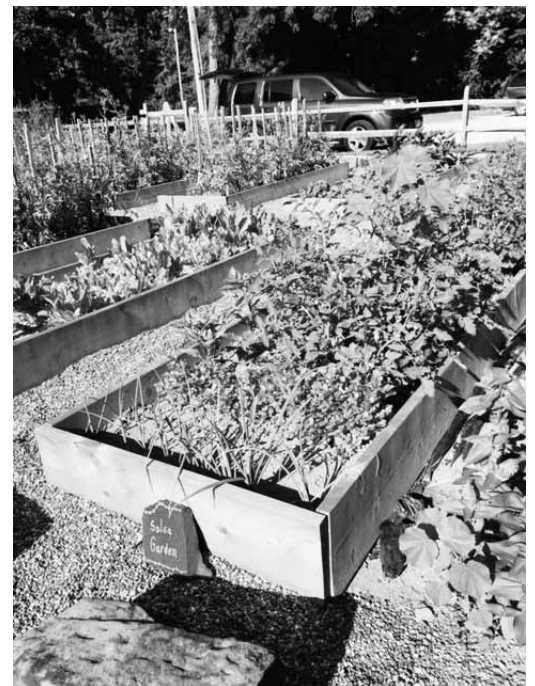
Mrs. Indriolo, the junior high science teacher, once again took her 7th and 8th grade students to the garden to plan, plant and observe some "square foot gardening" and you can see everything from corn, chard, carrots, and lettuce in these beds. In the fall, these students will return to the garden to harvest their crops (and other crops planted by other classes) to donate to the Good Samaritan Hunger Center that resides in the back of St. Sebastian Byrider Hall.

Another new event for the 2nd, 3rd and 6th graders was to have an organic salad from the school garden the last week of school and it was a fun and delicious experience for all! 3rd graders also planted a "Salsa" garden in a designated raised bed. This bed includes: tomatoes, peppers, onions, and cilantro. With any luck, everything will grow great and the students will enjoy some fresh homemade salsa upon their return to school.



Crops are also being harvested this summer and are being used to cook for the rectory, donated to school families and parishioners and other crops are being preserved (for example, pickles) and will be available at the school's open house August 16th. Future plans for the garden include some recycled garden art, a large directional sign, a butterfly garden and a shed.

Stop by, pick a flower or veggie, sit at the picnic table and eat your lunch or even pick a few weeds! If you have any questions, comments, compliments, or suggestions please let us know... we would like to hear from you.



Sara Wyszynski, Garden Project Manager &
St. Sebastian Parish School Technology Coordinator & Teacher
wyszynskis@stsebastian.org

The garden is funded by money donated from the paddle raise during the 2011 September Spectacular.

High School Freshman! Welcome to the Alumni Association!

By being a graduate of St. Sebastian Parish School, you are automatically a member. You are joining a group of over 5,000 proud alumni. Please keep in contact with us! Email us anytime at alumni@stsebastian.org and let us know how you are doing, what wonderful accomplishments you have achieved, awards you have earned, volunteer projects you have helped with, and anything else you would like to share. Below are where the 2015 alumni will be attending high school.

Akron Early College

Quaiann Miller

Akron STEM

Lucas Howiler

Archbishop Hoban

Kennedy Adams
Isabella Bendo
Jacob Branham
Justin Chalfant
Ian Doucet
Emma Grosklos
Benjamin Hawk
Maxwell Hawk
Joshua Johnson
Justice Jozic
Connor Magoolaghan
Julia Mazzotti
Brianna McCarron
Erynn Ouellette
Ian Quinn
Thomas Rademacher
Lauren Reymann
Owen Robinson

Josephine Savitski
Therese Skovira
Sophia Thomas
Tanaya Thompson
Charlotte Wilt

Firestone

Austin Kannai
Andrew Maguire
Shadae Mathurin
Hannah Schumacher
Dominick Swindall

Our Lady of the Elms

Anika Elias
Marina Hershberger
Shannon Jackson

Revere

Stephanie Altier

St. Vincent-St. Mary

Kierstyn Baker
Alec Coombs
Dante D'Andrea

Abigail DeKatch
Maria Dobson
Olivia Gupta
Anne Hanlon
Cole Kelley
Madeline McSteen
Alexander Phillip
Armando Rodriguez
Matthew Saliga
Christopher Schar
Samuel Showalter
Joseph Walsh
Cecelia Walter
Ada Wyszynski
Zoe Zelch

Wadsworth

Tyler Merrix

Walsh Jesuit

Liam Baker
Peter Calleri
Caroline Hummel
Leighton Kincaid
Daria Reimund

Alumni Updates

CLASS OF 1975

The class of 1975 is planning a 40th reunion this fall. Plans are just now starting so if you would like to be involved or would like to attend, please email Jacquelyn Del Medico Paparella at jpaparella@chez-del.com for more information.

CLASS OF 1976

The 2015 James Excellence Award was given to **Kris Kipp, MSN, RN** for his "Excellence in Leadership"

at the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center-James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute. View the YouTube video at: <https://youtu.be/FDxNWkCRMZI>

CLASS OF 2012

Congratulations to **Keith Contrera** who was elected as President of the Student Council for Archbishop Hoban High School.

Send Us Your "[Alumni Updates](#)"

We would love to hear from you! Please use the contact form online or email us your updates and stories to: alumni@stsebastian.org

SEPTEMBER *Spectacular*



Inspiring the Critical Thinkers of Tomorrow

The 2015 September Spectacular will take place in Zwisler Hall on Saturday, September 19, 2015. Please join us at this worthy event as we raise money for an increased presence of STEM education at St. Sebastian Parish School.

Funds from this year's paddle raise will fund our new STEM initiative. STEM is Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics and is important for individual citizens and the nation's economy as the world becomes increasingly dependent on the use of electronic devices and as society benefits from technological advances.

The support received from the September Spectacular will enable our teachers' professional development,

lesson development, afterschool and community programs, and material acquisitions that will support STEM learning efforts.

If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please visit:

<http://www.stsebastian.org/school/sept-spectacular.html>

Advanced tickets are required to attend this event, please visit the web address above for more information, make a donation or to purchase tickets.

*Can't attend this exciting event?
You can still support us!*

Please log in to <http://www.bidpal.net/Spectacular> and you can bid LIVE on our incredible silent auction packages. Looking to stay at the Drake in Chicago, want a LeBron FatHead, or how about a new sewing machine? You will be amazed with all the exciting donations this year's volunteers gathered!

Bid High, Bid Often!

We Will Remember

The Alumni Association extends our sincerest sympathy to the families and friends of the alumni, parents and spouses of alumni who have passed. If you learn of the passing of a St. Sebastian Alumni, please contact us by phone at 330.836.2233 x119 or by email at alumni@stsebastian.org.

✠ Please keep these friends in your prayers ✠

Carolyn Ventresca, P'72, '75, '76, '79, '83, April 25, 2015

Nellie Pianalto, P'60, '64, April 30, 2015

John Jahant, P'73, '75, '76, May 7, 2015

John A. Haas, S'44, May 25, 2015

Lynn Metzger, S'45, July 21, 2015

John Balaun, P'72, July 30, 2015

Patrick Glenn, P'77, '80, '83, August 10, 2015

Fr. Gordon Yahner, '51, August 13, 2015

Mary Louise Hilkert, P'62, '63, '64, '67, '69, '70, '73, '76, August 16, 2015

P designates that they are the parent of an alumni

S designates that they are the spouse of an alumni



Remodeled Technology Center
Funded by the
2014 September Spectacular Paddle Raise



Hamlin Library received a new floor and is now connected to the Technology Center



The parking lot of Byrider Hall was sealed and striped



New glass block windows in Byrider Hall, funded by a grant from the *Lehner Foundation*

Completely remodeled girls bathroom



Our Newest Alumni 8th Grade Graduating Class of 2015

Congratulations to our St. Sebastian Parish School who graduated 58 students with 85% of our graduates continuing on to a local Catholic High School (*see list on page 4*). The students collectively earned \$306,045 in scholarships for the next four years to assist them in furthering their education. Welcome to our newest alumni!