## Alumni and Friends St. Cecelia Interparochial Catholic School

Volume 1, Issue 2

#### December 2010



Trish is a native of Clearwater, born at Morton Plant Hospital and educated locally, including her time at St. Cecelia's. In fact, it was at St. Cecelia's that Trish began her work in the community. She was a Vista Volunteer in the Summer Reading Program here while she was in elementary school. That commitment to community continued throughout her formative years and into her professional life. Trish worked her way through college at the University of Florida by owning and operating a group home. But eventually, Trish decided to follow in her father's footsteps and become a lawyer. She graduated from Stetson College of Law in Gulfport, Florida and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1985. Her decision to run for judge, however, came after years of work as a mediator, arbitrator and special master. The skills needed for these roles served her well; similar to those needed of a judge, that Trish felt she could serve the people of this Circuit with the experience, skills and her



unbiased nature. "Like most girls who attended St. Cecelia's I thought I would grow up to be a nun." In those days, almost all the teachers were nuns. It is fun to look back at those seminal years, where Trish's values and ethics were shaped. "I will always remember walking up the front entrance holding my Mom's hand for the first day of school. I treasure the memories of the times my parents had Monsignor Colreavy over for spaghetti dinner on Sunday evenings. There is no doubt that my time at St. Cecelia's was instrumental in providing me with a deep sense of personal responsibility and an exceptional foundation for my future."

#### St. Cecelia School Named National Blue Ribbon Award Winner



St. Cecelia Catholic School Principal, Mary Beth Scanlon, recently returned from a trip to Washington, DC where she accepted the National Blue Ribbon award from Secretary of the US Department of Education, Arne Duncan. Principal Scanlon was presented with a beautiful plaque and Blue Ribbon Flag to commemorate winning the award. After receiving the award for the school, the end of the day was highlighted with a meeting with Congressman Gus Bilirakis who presented the school with a framed copy of the Congressional Record in which Congressman Bilirakis commended St. Cecelia School as a school of excellence. Upon returning to Clearwater a flag raising ceremony was held at the school to celebrate winning the prestigious award. The entire student body gathered by the flag pole as the Blue Ribbon Flag was raised. Local area dignitaries including representatives from the Mayor's office and Congressman Bilirakis's office were present to mark the momentous occasion.

**Alumni Officers**: Maryanne Del Monte, Development • Steve Paul, President • Marreen Majer, Vice President • Vicki Vaughan, Treasurer • Teresa Malke, Secretary/Historian • Mike Baralt, Class Representative

"Celebrate the uniqueness of each person as a child of God while we proclaim the Gospel message, pray together, build community, and serve others..."



#### Alumni and Friends St. Cecelia Interparochial Catholic School

## Alumni Giveback in Africa

David Habib '11

Medical Mission Trip to Uganda, Africa Summer 2010

This summer I participated in a medical mission trip with the Children's Heritage Foundation, located in California. There were 12 students, 3 doctors, 3 nurses, 4 parents, and 2 chaperones. We started our trip by traveling 35 hours to Kampala, the capital of Uganda. During our stay in Kampala, we attended a beautiful wedding, went to a local church, and volunteered at an orphanage where 800 children live. From Kampala, we traveled 7 hours north on a mud road to Gulu (meaning Heaven), a war-torn area that had just finished a 20 year civil war about 5 years ago. Upon arriving there, we were informed that the health commissioner wanted us to personally pay him in order for us to work at the major clinic in the



city. Our group leader did not believe that this was the right thing to do, so we partnered with a local church and set up 4 different clinics in a very rural area. We treated about 500 patients everyday with pharmacy, dentistry (I got to pull out 4 teeth!), physician care and wound care. The people we met were the most generous, joyful, and faith-filled people that I had ever met. They suffer from numerous diseases including malaria, Aids, HIV and many more; however, they truly had a spectacular trust in God and a very positive outlook on life. It was amazing because these people had absolutely nothing but were so happy with their lives. This greatly contrasted with us because we have everything and always want more. Whether it was the people on our Gulu team or the people that we helped, we heard very morbid stories, many of which you only read about. What is so fascinating about the hundreds of people we worked with and helped is that each of them has a horrible story to tell, but each of them have a massive faith in God and have forgiven all those who did harm to them. After an emotional but successful week in Gulu, we returned to Kampala where we set up a clinic at the orphanage and helped the kids for two days. After that, we concluded our trip by visiting the source of the Nile in Jinja and by traveling another 35 hours home to California. As a whole, the trip was the best thing I have ever done, and it really showed me the beauty of life because we worked with the sickest of the sick and the poorest of the poor, yet these people are the most satisfied with their challenging lives.

# 5K Crusader Gallop & Fun Trot Saturday, February 5, 2011. Ream Wilson Trail – Del Oro Park, 401 McMullen Booth, Clearwater, FL

5K begins at 8am (registration, 7:00am) Fun Trot 8:30am 5K—12 & under \$18.00, 13 & older \$20.00 1 Mile Fun Trot \$15.00 T-shirts are not guaranteed for those registering after 1/21/2011. IPICO tag for each runner. Results posted. Awards to top 3 males and females in various age groups.





Thank you to Virginia Street Dermatology! Sponsor for 2011 5K Race! The Soe Family



"Encourage students to open their hearts to God, their minds to learning, and their talents to service..."

## Alumni Awards & Honors

#### What's Happening...

Kayla Allen attended a weeklong academy at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center sponsored by Honeywell. "It was so awesome; I felt like an astronaut," said Kayla in the interview with the Times. Kayla was among 160 students from 20 countries and 28 U.S. states who recently attended a weeklong leadership training academy at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

Scott Wieteska "82" - is on temporary assignment as a lighting designer for Walt Disney Creative Entertainment in Orlando. He is currently in Northern Germany and the Netherlands building the 3rd ship of the Disney Cruise Line fleet, The Disney Dream. He is working on lighting for the main stage shows in the Walt Disney Theatre aboard The Disney Dream.

Terry Farley "02" - landed the role Huck Finn, in the musical Big River, an adaptation of Mark Twain's The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn at the Eight O'clock Theatre located in Largo.

## 2010-2011 Alumni Awards & Announcements

Christopher Adan, National Hispanic Recognition **Program Scholar** 

Daniel Boyle, Eric Miller, Karina Bach & Anna Arango, Named National Merit Commended Scholars

Christina A. Ford & Madeleine Turcotte, National Merit Semifinalists

Justin Homburg, State Farm Student of the month for April.

Graham Brown, State Farm student Athlete of the Month of April

Christina A. Ford, State Farm student of the Month for September

#### **10 Year Class Reunion**

Looking for Graduates of 2001 to organize a 10 year reunion. Please contact Maryanne Del Monte, 727-461-1207.

Birth announcement: Marcella Mateka-Stile "95" Jack Benno Stile born Jan. 22, 2010 Wedding announcement: Johanna

Snibbe Nardin "91" Wedding announcement: Haley Parker - Winter "93" married Joshua Todsen on April 24, 2010. Haley is a partner with Bay Area Emergency Physicians in Clearwater where she works at Morton

Plant Hospital and Bardmoor Emergency Center. Wedding announcement: Mary Marshall "92" married Donald Victor Baxter on Oct. 9, 2010. They live in Jacksonville, FL

### **Crusaders Team-Up**

Our 8th grade classes had such a special and meaningful day of service for the homeless at Pinellas Hope, an initiative of our Bishop Robert Lynch. Students were asked to earn funds at home for the purchase of wood, nails and screws. Hopefully, this investment of time, talent and their own money, as well as experience of building platforms for the tents, which would normally sit on the bare ground, will remain a lifechanging event that will inspire them for the rest of their lives.

"Strive to provide a strong spiritual and academic foundation so that our students can become responsible members of the Church and the community now and in the future..."



Mary Marshall-Baxter





St. Cecelia School 1350 Court Street Clearwater, FL 33756 (727) 461.1200

#### St. Cecelia is looking for Class Representatives...Call 727.443.5479

How have you been? Let us know at tlehan@st-cecelia.org

## Annual Crusader Gallop 5K & 1-Mile Fun Trot

Saturday, February 5, 2011 Ream Wilson Trail – Del Oro Park 401 McMullen Booth Rd, Clearwater, FL

5K begins at 8am (registration, 7:00am) Fun Trot 8:30am

REGISTRATION FORM							
One form per participant.							
I will be participating in the	:	5K Gallop		1 mile Fun Tr	tot	\$:	amount enclosed
Name				Age		Sex: Male	Female (circle)
Address							
City				State		Zip code	
e-mail address							
Home Phone (	)			Cell phon	ie (	)	
Are you an alumnus of St. C							
T-shirt size (circle one)	YS Y	YM YL	or AS	AM AL	AXL A	XXL	

I\_\_\_\_\_\_hereby assume all risks and hazards incidental to participation in the Crusader 5K Gallop and Imile Fun Trot including myself physically fit and adequately trained for the 5K Gallop and 1K Fun Trot. I do hereby waive, release and agree to hold harmless the organizers, sponsors, activity supervisors, volunteers, co-sponsoring organizations and participants, St. Cecelia Interparochial School, St. Cecelia Church, Diocese of St. Petersburg, Bishop Robert N. Lynch, and the city of Clearwater for any claim arising out of an injury. I also acknowledge the town of Clearwater will not assume costs related to injury or injuries while involved in this activity. I understand that I am responsible for the return of the IPICO tag or I will be charged.

Signature of participant (or of legal guardian if participant is under 18)

Date

Mail entry form & check to: St. Cecelia Interparochial Catholic School, 1350 Court St. Clearwater, FL 33756 Please go to www.scsfundraiser for more information.

"CRUSADERS FOREVER! Faith, Scholarship, Athletics, Academics"