

Tidings

Bethlehem Catholic High School Alumni & Class of '70 Newsletter

May 2023

Circulation 3,600 plus

May 2023: Hey! What's the Big Idea?

Just so you know, the idea(s) *don't* have to be a surprise. (Since I haven't received any...yet.) As a reminder...

THE major milestone in our school's history will be upon us in September 2026. 100 Years of education and service to the children and families of the Lehigh Valley.

As we move closer to the date, I ask that each of you consider how the school and community can celebrate this occasion. What are your ideas? It's never too early to think about it. Send your ideas to me and I'll get them to the school or send them directly to the school.

I'll post some of your inputs in future *Tidings* so others can get motivated to send in their idea.

Some Alums who I saw or who checked in last month...

Bob Tallarico '52, (Sr.) Regina Chassar, SSJ '53, Patricia Takacs Kauffman '56, Harry Mitchell '57, Carol Rau Doll '59, Sandy Majczan Silvoy '61, Ann Marie Bruno Anderko '64, Joseph Huber '66, Patrick Urello '67, Tom Anderko '68, Mary Lou Andris Seigfried '68, Pat Potak Mitchell '68, George Agentis '69, John Andris '69, Bob Baur '69, Greg Benz '71, Gene and Jan (Pakulski) Connell '71, Bobby Halbreiner '71, Richard Gorski '73, Bill Ripper '73, John Concilio '77, Sally Kammetler '78, Dave Uliana '79, Toni Campanella Erceg '80, Tom Vresics '81, John Feehan '82, Mary Beth Hudak Whitehead '82, Mary Chaffier Banonis '90, Elise Esposito McCollum '09

...and from my Class...

BobbyA, Mary Jane Bartos Sickonic, Tony Bauer, Jean Bringenberg Cech, Maki, Dave Cech, Jay Chanitz, Lisa, Anne Gerber, Mayra Godin Focht, Trish Holly Zechman, Tina Hudak, Jeff and Col, George and Betsy, Corliss Kuzmin Reed, J. Michael Lynch, Pat Lynch, Jim Perkins, Susan Peters Crawford, Karen Raykos Fatzinger, Kathy Ripper Grasso, Tim Sabota, Tommy Sculley, Josephine, Carl, Linda Talbot Keefe

--

Please say a special prayer for Tony Bauer's brother and for Peggy Steirer Mahouska's mother who passed away recently.

Joe Bauer '72 passed away on April 3rd. Please also remember Tony's and Joe's sister **Barbara** '73 in your prayers as well.

Margaret Rose Steirer passed away on April 16th. Please also remember Peggy's brothers **Billy** '71, **Richard** '77, Jeffrey, and Thomas in your prayers as well.

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Alumni Cited in this Month's Tidings

If your class is low on information in this month's newsletter, let me know what to include, and I'll gladly share the news. Meanwhile, here's a matrix of **292 grads from 68 classes** for this edition, and those graduates whose names are highlighted in **Gold** are members of a reunion year class of "3" and/or "8".

Names and Classes Mentioned in May's Tidings

Decades >	40s	50s	60s	70s	80s	90s	00s	10s	20s	
Year Ending										
0				41	7	2	1	1		
1			3	10	2	1	2	1	2	
2		2	1	9	8	1	1	1		
3	1	1		14	3	4	2	2		
4	1	1	1	6	4	1	1	1		
5				4	2	1	1	1		
6		1	1	8	4	2	1	2		
7	1	2	2	4	2	1	2	2		Classes
8	64	1	3	5	4	2	2	2		<u>68</u>
9		1	16	2	1	4	2			Grads
	67	9	27	103	37	19	15	13	2	<u>292</u>

This year the following reunion-year classes **were/will be** featured...

- ✓ 1928 – January, 95 years
- ✓ 1933 – February, 90 years
- ✓ 1938 – March, 85 years
- ✓ 1943 – April, 80 years
- ✓ 1948 – May, 75 years
- 1953 – June, 70 years
- 1958 – July, 65 years
- 1963 – August, 60 years
- 1968 – September, 55 years
- 1973 – October, 50 years

The Class of '43 Postscripts...

"Keep those cards and letters coming." Your messages help me to tell a better, more complete story each month. This is what I love the most...filling in the blanks of Becahi history by alums writing in. Here are some stories I learned about last month's honored **Class of '43**.

Helen Miklos '43 and her husband **Frank Gorski '44** had **4** sons who graduated from Beca: **Tim '67**, **Chris '70**, **Rich '73** and **Mark '75**.

Pat Lynch '70 wrote that he was particularly pleased... "when I saw my Aunt Tessie, **Teresa Lynch Oravec** listed in the 1943 class review. She had 5 brothers including my father. She also had a son, my cousin **Joe Oravec**, who was 2 years behind us at BCHS. If I'm not mistaken, he graduated in '72."

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Becahi's Principal to Pursue New Career

Lucas "Luke" Wilde, who served the Becahi community for thirteen years as teacher, administrator, coach, and, last year, principal, has informed the Board of Directors that he has decided to take advantage of a unique job opportunity outside the field of education, and has left the school community in late April.

An interim leadership team will provide for school management for the remaining weeks of the school year, and a search will be conducted to look for his successor.

All the best, Luke, and thank you for serving our Becahi community.

Alumni Legal Briefs

We found some more legal eagles hawks...

Joseph Huber '66 wrote that he served in the legal profession. His undergraduate work was completed at Shippensburg University, and he graduated with his JD from Duquesne University Law School. Joe served as Assistant District Attorney for Lehigh County right after graduation for 4 years under George Joseph. He then relocated and practiced in Western Pa and now lives in Akron Ohio / Naples Florida.

John Andris '69 wrote that he "...graduated from University of Louisville Law School in 1980. I had moved to Louisville in 1975 and still live there."

Rich Gorski '73, a graduate of Penn State University and Temple University Law School, is Retired after careers in Hospital Pharmacy and Law. - No objection from me, Rich. - JOB

John Francis Horvath '82, who received a BS in Physics from Case Western Reserve University, a PhD in Physics from the University of California at Irvine, and a JD from the University of Michigan Law School, is Administrative Patent Judge, United States Patent and Trademark Office in Austin, TX.

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Celebrating the Class of 1948's Virtual 75th Reunion

I was able to peruse a 1948 Yearbook that was the property of **Victoria Gonzalez Brady '48** and donated to the school by Victoria's children **Dan '70** and **Beverly '73**. The graduates are...

Mary Ann Bacak Wiley
Geraldine Barron Husovsky
Vivian "Vickie" Barron Jones
Teresa Bartera Fantasia
John "Jack" Boyle
Mary "Molly" Brady Mommessin
Mary Jane (Sr. Eleanor) Bringenberg, S.S.J.
Vincent Bringenberg
Rosemarie Bush Halkins
Matthew Cech
Mary Ann Dalton Vidumsky
Dolores Davenport Schnalzer
Eugene Doyle
Georgine Dugan Matey
(Sr.) Joan Dugan, S.S.J.
Patricia Dwyer Bogar
Dolores Enright Beltzmann
Bernadine Fecko Pringer
Robert "Bob" Fenol
Michael Folajtar
Frances Gasdaska Turanchik
Rosemary T. Glancy Albertson
Victoria Gonzalez Brady
Mary C. Green
Rosemarie Hartigan Kaercher
Robert Hogan
Mary Jane Hollendersky Pickard
Anna Kacmar Kurtz
Elaine Marie Kisslan Farris
Helen Korpics Vargo
Rosemarie "Rosie" Kosalko Wild
Anthony Lucia

Verna Lunglhofer Cowin
Mary Ann Maloney Tepper
Lorraine McFadden Fondl
Rosie McGee
Francis McGouldrick
Mary McGouldrick Zabrecky
Theresa Mingora Creedon
Margaret "Peggy" Molitorisz Clauser
John Neuppert
Anna Marie "Sis" O'Connell Corvino
Madeline O'Donnell Laposa
Ann Ortwein Kelly
Thomas Ortwein
Connie Patelis Check
Marie Petruny Bartholomew
Mary Pongracz
Stephen Pringer
Patricia Repasch Hoey
(Sr.) Rita Helen Rodgers
Rose Ruth Sabota
Joan Ryan Schnalzer
Mary Ann Salasky
Helen Sankovsky Neuppert
Eleanor Schramko Cinelli
George Sikora
Kathleen Simmons Zelko
Margaret Spevak Stangl
Cecilia Spisak Kish
Elizabeth "Betty" Thomas
Joseph Timmer
Mary Toth Racosky
Joseph Turnbach

* My research has 10 classmates living
All other classmates are "watching from above."

Joseph Turnbach was Valedictorian.
Elaine Kisslan was Salutatorian.

Here are a few tidbits I found about the graduates...

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There were three campus couples...

Bernadine Fecko and Stephen Pringer
Rosemarie Hartigan and **Jacob Kaercher '47**
John Neuppert and Helen Sankovsky

Thirteen graduates had 37 children who graduated from Beca...

Mary Ann Dalton Vidumsky > **Carol '69, Cecilia '76**
Dolores Davenport Schnalzer > **David '72, Ron '77**
Rosemary Glancy Albertson > **Carol '69, Ray '70**
Victoria Gonzalez Brady > **Dan '70, Beverly '73**
Rosemarie Hartigan and **Jacob Kaercher '47 > Patty '79, Lisa '80**
Elaine Kisslan Farris > **Susan '73, Robert '75, Richard '76**
Helen Korpics Vargo > **Tom '78, Joe '80**
Lorraine McFadden Fondl > **Jeff '71, Mark '73, Brian '74, Karen '78, Christine '80, Gary '84**
Francis McGouldrick > **Fran '69, Patty '70, Tom '72, Tim '74, Michelle '75**
Anna Marie O'Connell Corvino > **Patricia '74**
Thomas Ortwein > **Theresa '71, Tom '73, Roseann '76**
Joan Ryan Schnalzer > **Joan '69, John '72, Scott '76, Paul '86, Marybeth '88**
Margaret Spevak Stangl > **Judy '74, Joan '82**

Nine graduates served in the military...

Jack Boyle > U.S. Army (Korea)	Vincent Bringenberg > U.S. Army
Eugen Doyle > U.S. Navy	Robert Hogan > U.S. Navy
John Neuppert > U.S. Army	Thomas Ortwein > U.S. Army
Stephen Pringer > U.S. Air Force (Korea)	George Sikora > U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy (Korea)
Cecilia Spisak Kish > U.S. Air Force	

Three grads served as Healthcare Professionals as Nurses...

Rosemarie Hartigan Kaercher Helen Sankovsky Neuppert Eleanor Schramko Cinelli

Three grads served as Religious...

Mary Jane (Sr. Eleanor) Bringenberg, S.S.J. (Sr.) Joan Dugan, S.S.J.
(Sr.) Rita Helen Rodgers, S.S.J.

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Becahi Distinguished Graduates Installed



John Feehan '82, Dr. Elise Esposito McCollum '09, Greg Benz '71

These graduates distinguished themselves accordingly:

Greg Benz '71 through his nationally recognized work in Transportation Planning & Design; **John Feehan Jr. '82** for his success in Finance and Entrepreneurship, and **Dr. Elise Esposito McCollum '09** for her love of lifelong learning in the field of Dentistry and Medical Engineering.

Congratulations. You are all difference-makers and make us proud.

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More Alumni Briefs:

Last month, I heard from or read about:

Bob Tallarico '52, who lives in Grand Junction, CO, wrote to say he won a first-place gold medal in the Drama, Comedy Prose category through the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival for his script titled "Roberto's Phone Answering Message." He also won an expense-paid trip to the April awards ceremony in St. Louis, MO. - Western Colorado Writer's Forum. Nicely done, Bob! - This piece is recorded on his phone answering machine. You can hear it by dialing 1 970 242 3718 and tell my wife Bobbie that you want to hear the recording.

Kathy Antoccia (formerly a student of Becahi class of 70, then to Liberty High School) writes that she and her husband **Bob Baur '69** "...celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in January 2023 with a blessing during Mass and a small dinner party with friends and family. Bob is once again back at GE Aviation as a pensioner. He just can't leave; he enjoys it so much! Hopefully an Alaskan cruise land tour is in their future after trying to go since 2019! Our 6 grandchildren keep us hopping with numerous sports events on the fields and in the gyms! We still go back to Bethlehem a few times a year and seem to always pass the old school stomping grounds. So many memories at various dances."

Pete Howard '69 doesn't have an email address, but he wants to see his name in *Tidings* as he does read the newsletter on-line. He talked to **Bobby Alpago '70** after mass on Easter Sunday, and Bob passed Pete's message along to me. So, Hi Peter! You're now famous! The newsletter must get *dozens* of looks each month.

Mary Green Loch '73, who is looking forward to her class's 50th reunion in August, writes.... "I have been married to Kurt Loch for 46 years. We had 2 sons who both attended Becahi, **Christian Loch '99** passed away in 2014 and our son **Tim graduated in 2000** and lives nearby in Bath. We have 3 beautiful granddaughters. I attended West Chester State College and worked as music director at Notre Dame of Bethlehem parish for 23 years and am currently directing Music at St Jane de Chantal in Easton for 16 years. I have also worked as a medical receptionist for St. Luke's Physician Group since 1995. It's hard to believe we graduated in 1973! Lots of good memories."

Jerry Fagliano '76, is an Associate Clinical Professor and Chair of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at Drexel University. Jerry graduated from the University of Vermont with a BA in Biology, earned a Master of Public Health degree in environmental health from Yale University, and a PhD in occupational and environmental epidemiology from Johns Hopkins University. — drexel.edu/uhc/about/team

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Save these Date(s)... for now...

May the Fourth (Be with you)

Cinco de Mayo

August 4th – **Class of '73's** Reunion Golf Outing and Musikfest Meet and Greet

August 5th – **Class of '73's 50th Reunion**, The Club at Twin Lakes

August 12th – **Class of '76's** Medicare Picnic!

September 8th – Golden Hawk Golf Classic

September 16th – **Class of '61's** 80th Birthday Party Reunion, TBD (see below)

September 30th – **Class of '78's 45th Reunion**, Steel Club

October 14th – **Class of '83's 40th Reunion**, DeSales University

Reunion News...

➤ **Class of 1961's 80th Birthday Party / Reunion**

Saturday, September 16. The place for this merrymaking will be at **John McGeehan's '61** house. More information to follow once some on the party planning committee members return from their self-imposed winter exile in the sunny south. **Sandy Majczan Silvoy '61** is the Point of Contact go to: sandysilvoy@gmail.com

➤ **Class of 1973's 50th Reunion**

Arrangements are progressing, and here is the schedule as it stands now,

- Friday morning, Aug. 4, 2023, Golf outing (details still TBA)
 - You don't have to go to the dinner on Saturday to golf, and spouses are welcome to tee it up, too.
 - **Bill Ripper '73** is the Point of Contact... wripper@gmail.com
- Friday night, Aug. 4, 2023, Informal gathering at Musikfest (details TBA)
- Saturday night, Aug. 5, 2023, Reunion dinner (with cash bar) at The Club At Twin Lakes. 6:00-11:00pm

They also have a Facebook page called BeCaHi Class of 1973, for which **John Fiorentino '73** is the administrator. He can be reached at johnfiorentino55@gmail.com

➤ **Class of 1978's 45th Reunion**

Arrangements are underway for the Class of 1978's 45th Reunion. The date is September 30th... venue will be The Steel Club. No other details yet. The class has a Facebook page titled – Becahi Class of '78, on which **Sally Kammetler '78** is the administrator... sallykamm@gmail.com

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➤ Class of '76 - Medicare Picnic!

"Most of our class is turning 65 this year, so we thought we'd celebrate with a party":

- Date: Saturday, August 12, 2023
- Time: 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
- Location: Bethlehem Municipal Golf Course Clubhouse Grille - Downstairs private rooms
- Cost: \$30 and a Cash Bar
 - Menu: Burgers, Grilled chicken, Salad, Mac & cheese, Potato salad, Veggie tray, Cookie tray!
- Checks payable to: **Susan Lawrence**, 744 Barrymore Lane, Bethlehem, PA 18017, or Venmo Susan-Lawrence-79
- Questions? Call: **Sue Lawrence** 610-390-2134 **Sue Rehrig** 505-563-0614 **Dave Bossert** 610-984-4239

"We are really looking forward to seeing everyone! This is the last Saturday of Musikfest so people may want to continue the festivities at Musikfest. Significant others are very welcome!" – Susan Rehrig '76

➤ Class of '83 – 40th Reunion

- Date: Saturday, October 14th
- Time: 6:00pm
- Location: DeSales University
- More information to come...

"Prom" vs "The Prom"

The Bethlehem Catholic High School's Facebook page shows an illustration in front of the school's main entrance that reads, "Prom 23". Whether it's called Prom or "The Prom", the evening is sure to contain special and unforgettable memories for years to come. For example,

Kathy Meder Gifford '69 wrote this on Becahi's Facebook page... *"I graduated in 1969 and yes, we referred to it as "The Prom". Decorating the gym was as much fun as the prom! Our theme was Carousel. My date [**Doug Gifford '69**] was the guy I married - it was our first date. We will be married for 50 years in August! Beca's prom was very special for us."*

Mary Beth Makoski '73 wrote this on Becahi's Facebook page... *"Wow! Fifty years ago, we called it "The Prom" and were THRILLED to see the gym transformed into a magical destination, all done by the students! The Prom of 1973, my Senior year, was especially magical as a group of classmates built the Mountain and the Man at the Top, holding a lantern, exactly like the cover of Led Zeppelin's album that had "Stairway to Heaven" in it. That was the theme for that Prom of 1973--it was UNFORGETTABLE!!"*

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**From the Advancement Office
Tom Vresics '81, Director**

Our Becahi Giving Day Will Be Thursday, June 1st

*"Last year you may remember that we set a new Giving Day Record at **\$31,225.00**.*

I have great news, our anonymous donor from last year has renewed her pledge to match your contributions up to \$15,000. I am happy to announce that we have already met her \$15,000 match!

*This development changes everything because those who pledged over \$15,000 to meet our first donor's challenge are now offering a challenge to all of you to raise another \$15,000 for Becahi. During May, Major Donor Month, I will try to secure as many groups of Pre-Giving Day \$15,000 donors as possible for our **"You Be the Exclamation Point Giving Day Campaign!"***

We are working on a hype video and asking prominent alumni to star in short clips encouraging their friends and family to contribute to our Giving Day on Thursday, June 1st. Contact Tom Vresics at tvresics@becahi.org if you want to make a 15-30 second video to support giving day and be part of the Pre-Giving Day Challenge Campaign.

Currently, the Giving Day exclamation point thermometer stands after "BC"! If we raise additional groups of \$15,000 donations for Becahi, the exclamation point-giving thermometer will be placed after the following letter combinations:

\$45,000 Pre-Giving Day Thermometer BC!!

\$60,000 Pre-Giving Day Thermometer GOBC!

\$75,000 Pre-Giving Day Thermometer HAWKS!

\$90,000 Pre-Giving Day Thermometer BECAHI!

If we reach the last \$90,000 Pre-Giving Day level, we can raise over \$100,000 for Becahi in one day of Giving. This feat would be an accomplishment we could all be proud of as loyal alumni of Bethlehem Catholic."

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Recent Passings

Alumni	Class	Passed Away	Age
Dolores Mulzet Diefenderfer	1953	04/20/2023	87
Catherine Ortwein McShane	1957	03/31/2023	84
Joseph Bauer	1972	04/03/2023	69
Kevin Maga	1986	03/31/2023	56
Gabriella Amato	2023	04/03/2023	17

Our Family and Friends Passings

- † **Gabriella Amato, senior, class of 2023**, daughter of **Angelo '88**, on 04/03
- † **Joe Bauer '72**, brother of **Tony '70** and **Barbara '73**, and father of Jonathan, on 04/03
- † Gordon Derhammer, husband of **Peggy Napravnik Derhammer '58**, on 04/11
- † Lawrence Dottor, father of **Suzanna '85** and the late **Katrinka '82**, on 03/29
- † Richard Fistner, brother of **Barbara '62**, **Paul '69** and the late **Stephen '61**, on 04/23
- † Rudolph "Dray" Gosztonyi, husband of **Lisa Costa '84**, on 04/19
- † **Kevin Maga '86**, brother of Pattie and the late **Stanley '74**, on 03/31
- † Philip Martocci, brother of **Laura '80**, **Natalie '83**, **Monica '84** and **Diana '86**, on 03/14
- † Marcial Matos, father of **Arnold '80**, **Geraldo '82**, Isabel, Mildred, Fernando, Elliot, and Nancy, on 03/31
- † **Catherine Ortwein McShane '57**, bother of **William '54** and the late **Mary '52**, on 03/31
- † Margaret Rose Steirer, mother of **Peggy '70**, **Billy '71**, **Richard '77**, Jeffrey and Thomas, on 04/16

... and please remember to say a special prayer for our classmates who passed away during the month of May.

Tom Kacar (5/26/17)

Mike Keefe (5/9/17)

Dick Murray (5/29/87)

Frank Tomaszewski (5/1/93)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let Your perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.
Amen.

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100 Years of Becahi Sports in 2026 Those Thrilling Days of Yesteryear

Lisa DeAngelis '70 and **Corliss Kuzmin '70** wrote about the birth of girls softball at Beca...
*"Yesterday 10 of us Beca girls from '70 got together for lunch and again brought up the softball team. Corky Kuzmin looked up and found proof that we did have a team and is gonna send it to you. In the meantime, we came up with these names of the girls on the first team... **Kathy Shanahan '70, Patty Coyle '70, Nancy Cacciatore '70, Jean Bringenberg '70, Ann Collins '70, Rosie Esparza '70, Kathy Demyan '70, Maryann Schnalzer '71, Sue Bartos '72, Nancy Hinerschietz '72, Ann Sinnott '72, Mary Sinnott '72, Kathy Kelly '73.** We still don't have any pictures, but we remember that Rosie was always taking pictures. We're getting a little obsessed. Kathy Shanahan said she remembers us winning every game 😊"*

Corliss did some digging, followed up and sent me a link to the Parkland High School sports history, and wrote... *"See it (the Becahi girls' team) did exist [in 1970]!"* BTW, Becahi lost that game on 5/04/70 by the score of 10-9.

As part of the upcoming centennial celebration, I am attempting to recognize past achievements and milestones in Becahi team sport history. For example, the first girls softball team took the field (of dreams) in 1970. And, as you can see, there are a lot of missing pieces, like coaches, yearly records, stars, etc.

Stay obsessed. Let's make history come alive!

Bethlehem Catholic High School Girls Softball History

Years	Coach	Seasons	Won	Lost	Tie	Games	
1970 - 1972	Heidi Hydusik	3				0	
1973 - 2002	Not Sure	25				0	
Seventies	Rich Mazza	5	42	63		105	0.400
2003 - 2022*^	Rich Mazza	19	313	134		447	0.700
2022^	Dave King	1	11	5		16	0.688
2023	Rich Mazza	1	7	7		14	0.500 (thru 4/27/23)
		54	373	209	0	582	0.64089

Missing Information

* 2020 Season Cancelled...Covid-19

^ Rich Mazza injured during 2022 season, coached 8 games (won 8)

^ Dave King was interim coach during 2022 season, coached 16 games (11-5)

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Help fill in the missing pieces so we can celebrate the players and coaches from Becahi history...and maybe find some potential Wall of Fame members! **Did you play in those years? Help!?**

Alumni Sports Notables

Boys Tennis (Established 1969, I think.)

The 1969 team was referred to as the Tennis "Club" in the '69 Sceptre. Brother Richard Arnold, C.S.C. was listed as the Coach in the yearbook. I don't know the team's won/loss outcome, but the members were highly academically successful including...

Tom Barnett '69, Salutatorian, BS Wesleyan University / PhD Yale University

Bill Keating '69, BA MBA Lehigh University

Tom Kozlowski '69, BS Moravian University

Bob Palumbo '69, BS Penn State University

Bob Ward '69, BA Tufts University / JD NYU

Rick Jordan '70, BA Georgetown University / JD Catholic University, and a Becahi Distinguished Graduate

Chris Wright '70, BA Harvard University / MA University of California, Berkeley / JD Stanford Law School, and a Becahi Distinguished Graduate

Greg Benz '71, BA University of Notre Dame / MS Princeton University, and a 2023 Becahi Distinguished Graduate

Pat Donchez '71, BS Temple University

Joe Garvey '71, BA Vanderbilt University

Ed Hollshwandner '72, Valedictorian, BA Lafayette College / MBA University of Rochester

Becahi's Wrestling Coach, Jeff Karam, Calls It Quits

Jeff Karam has decided to leave the program after 15 seasons to start another life journey. He and his wife Debbie are looking forward to spending some more time with their family.

"I'm not old, but I'm older. There are a lot of things I want to do. We're going to take a lot of trips, do as much as we can until the money runs out." ... "You never know what's on the horizon. We'll figure it out as we go."

In his service at Beca, he led his teams to a PIAA-record nine state team titles, coached 22 individual state champions, then won 90% of his teams' matches.

"What meant most was the relationships with the kids. I hope my impact on them was positive. That's why I coach, to build character and help them grow into great men one day."

Thank you, Jeff!

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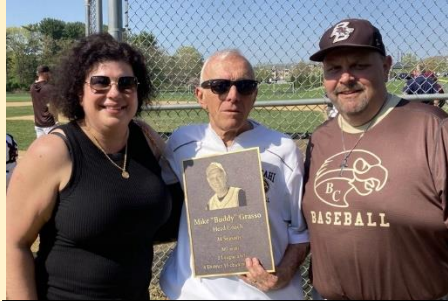
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Becahi Baseball

A Fitting, Grateful Gesture: Mike Grasso Field



Vivian Zumas '93, Mike, Mel Bachman '93
Morning Call photo

On Friday, April 21st, Becahi dedicated its home baseball field to former head coach, athletic director, teacher and passionate cheerleader, Mike Grasso, who served the Becahi community with love for 45 years.

Mel Bachman '93, the team's P.A. announcer, was a driving force behind the field dedication. Northampton County judge **Vivian Zumas '93** was on hand during the ceremonies and expressed her gratefulness to Mike for making her [us all] feel like a part of the family.

And speaking of Becahi family, Mike's better half is **Kathy Ripper '70**. Kathy and Mike gave us **Maria '96, Michael '99, Katelyn '01** and **Teresa '07**. A gift that keeps on giving. Thanks Mike and Kathy. ❤️

2023 Spring Sports Updates

Baseball – 97th season in school history

Matt Corsi '99, Head Coach (3rd season, 31-16)

20 games were scheduled for the regular season.

Through April 27th, the team won 11 and lost 6

Softball – 54th season in school history (est. 1970)

Rich Mazza, Head Coach (20th season, 313-134)

17 games were scheduled for the regular season.

Through April 27th, the team won 7, lost 7

Boys Tennis – 55th season in school history (est. 1969 (I think))

Melissa Magliochetti, Coach (1st Season)

16 matches were scheduled for the regular season.

Through April 20th the team won 8 - lost 8

Up Next District XI Team Quarterfinal May 1st

Congratulations to **Senior, Class of '23, Armaan Makwana**, the District XI AA Boys Tennis Singles runner up!

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Boys Volleyball – ?? season in school history (est. 1970s)

Tim Sledz, Coach (3rd season)

17 Matches were scheduled for the regular season.

Through April 26th, the team won 4, lost 10

Volleyball Alumni:

Jacob Sledz '21, a sophomore at Drew University... In 2022, he led the team in kills (3.41 kps), digs (2.45 dps), and aces (0.45 aps). Finished with seven double-doubles. – <https://drewrangers.com/sports/mens-volleyball/roster/jacob-sledz/8112>

Boys Lacrosse – 10th season in school history (est. 2013)

Kody Rivera, Coach (3rd season ?)

14 games were scheduled for the regular season.

Through April 25th, the team's record is 0-9

Lacrosse Alumni:

Ian Kish '21, a sophomore at Gwynedd Mercy University, has scored 40 points (so far) this season for the Griffins. He had a season-high five goals in one game and has scored at least one point in all 14 games this season. – Morning Call, 4/26/23

Bethlehem Catholic High School Is Now on LinkedIn

by Tom Vresics '81

Once a week, Bethlehem Catholic will share a noteworthy event or compelling article about what is happening at our alma mater, "enthroned mid-Bethlehem's verdant hills." To gain access, type "Bethlehem Catholic LinkedIn" on your phone or computer search bar to follow us online. We will limit ourselves to one post a week.

“BLinkedIn” Profiles

Get Connected to your Classmates... 59 graduates from 46 classes are profiled in this Tidings edition.

LinkedIn is an online platform that people use to build social networks with other people who share similar personal or career interests, activities, backgrounds, or real-life connections. Many of our classmates have profiles on LinkedIn that are viewed by and shared with the public. In future newsletters, some of those profiles of Becahi grads will be posted so we can continue to share our stories and connections with each other. It's a great way to market our school and its alumni. (...and because they are Becahi Grads, I call it “BLinkedIn”).

Here's what I found this month...

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Tom Hetzel '73, who received a BS in Accounting from the University of Scranton and an MBA from Rider University, is Controller at Learning Ally, a non-profit organization providing new, integrated tools to help educators drive sustainable transformational change in literacy leadership and student achievement, in Princeton, NJ.

Dave Tachovsky '73, who received a BS in Business Administration from Shippensburg University, is now RETIRED! after a career in finance at Swagelok Allentown, Industrial Machinery Manufacturing, in Schnecksville.

Diane Roebock '74, who received a Bachelor of Health Arts from the University of St. Francis, is a Registered Nurse at the Lehigh Valley Health Network.

Eileen Meder Szvetecz '75 is Practice Manager at Pendurthi Surgical Associates in Bethlehem.

Scott McCoach '76, who received a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Moravian University, is Senior Software developer at Quality Carriers, a subsidiary of the CSX Corporation, one of the nation's leading transportation suppliers, in Tampa, FL.

Ron Schnalzer '77 is a Security Officer at the Sheppard Pratt Health System based in Towson, MD.

Mike Estojak '78, is President of Mobile Technology Graphics of Florida, Inc., Proudly servicing all of Florida and the southeast Coast of the USA.

Gina Fioriglio Russo '78, who received a BA in Psychology from Moravian University and an MA in Industrial Psychology from Fairleigh Dickenson University, is New Choices Facilitator at Northampton Community College.

Dave Uliana '79, who received a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Delaware and an MS in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech, is Corporate Director and Member of the Board of Directors at Forcon International, a forensic consulting firm, offering engineering, accounting, surety, and construction expert services, in Annapolis, MD.

Vince Chiles '80, who a BA in Social Welfare from Kutztown University and a Master's Degree in Social Work from Arizona State University, is Hospice Supervisor at Covenant Home Care in Reading, PA.

Tina Sipotz Wieand '81 is a Billing Specialist at OAA Orthopaedic Specialists in Allentown.

Betsy Kline '82, who received a BA in Political Science, English from Boston College, is Vice President, Business Development, Business Dining at Aramark in the greater New York metropolitan area.

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Cheryl Morykan Hancock '83, a Becahi Wall-of-Fame member, a graduate of Boston University, is a Doctor of Physical Therapy and Owner of Core Physical Therapy in Danville, VA.

Jim Oravec '83 is a Sales Consultant at Faulkner Chevrolet and Cadillac of Bethlehem.

Ana Silva Martins '84, who received an Associate's Degree in Engineering from Northampton Community College and a BS in Civil Engineering from Villanova University, is Senior Project Manager at Van Cleef Engineering Associates in Center Valley.

Charles Pardo '85, who received a BS in Industrial Management and Engineering from Purdue University, is Account Manager at Metal Conversions, Ltd., a full-service metal recycling and trading company that specializes in aluminum, in Westerville, OH.

Beth Ann Scheller Wandler '86 is Senior Administrative Assistant at Colliers Engineering & Design in Allentown.

Jon Pinckney '87, who received a BA in Economics from Stanford University, is Managing Director, Interactive Launch Implementation, EAB, work with more than 2,500 institutions to drive transformative change through data-driven insights and best-in-class capabilities, in the greater Tucson, AZ area.

Tracy Zapp Pekurny '87, who received an RN from St. Luke's School of Nursing, is now a self-employed Real Estate Investor/REI Accelerator Consulting in Colorado Springs, CO.

Steven Schray '88, who received a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Lehigh University, is Transmission Engineer at SDG&E (San Diego Gas & Electric), in the greater San Diego area.

Milan Slak '88, who received a BBA in Accounting from the University of Toledo and an MS in Tax Law and a JD from Villanova University's Charles Widger School of Law, is a Member at Norris McLaughlin, P.A. in the Lehigh Valley.

Christopher Hercik '89, who received a BA in Graphic Design and Advertising from Moravian University, is CEO and Founder of HEVĚ, a collaboration agency dedicated to crafting 'Performance Content' that is narrative-led, innovation-inspired, data-fueled and designed to deliver higher levels of engagement and value for its partners, in the greater New York City area.

Veronica Jaramillo '90, who received a BS in Math and Chemistry from Moravian University and a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Arizona, is Dean of Natural Sciences at Pasadena City College in Pasadena, CA.

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Greg Panik '91, who received a BS in Accounting from Bloomsburg University, is Vice President: International (Asia and Latin America) at CTDI, a full-service, global engineering, repair and logistics company providing best-cost solutions to the communications industry in West Chester, PA.

Joe Lennert '92, who studied at Fairfield University, is Senior Vice President, Strategic Brokerage Operations at McGriff, providing highly customized insurance, risk management and employee benefit solutions for organizations of all sizes, in Allentown.

Kathy Tobin Cruz '93, is Vendor Relationship Manager, IT, at St. Luke's University Health Network.

Melissa Villani Shirk '93, who received a BS in Chemical Engineering from Lehigh University, is Global Key Account Management-Program Management-Strategic Planning at Johnson Matthey, a global leader in sustainable technologies, in the greater Philadelphia area.

Shea Poehler Ace '94, who received an Associate's Degree in Business Management from Northampton Community College and studied Nursing at St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing is Athletic Director at the Lehigh Valley Academy Regional Charter School in Bethlehem.

Krista Yuhas, '95's Valedictorian, who received a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics and Psychology from Franklin & Marshall College and an MS in Biostatistics from the University of Washington, is Biostatistician at Fred Hutch, a world leader in clinical care, research and learning, in Seattle, WA.

James Holzinger '96, who studied at DeSales University, is Manager Sprinkler Inspection, Maintenance, & Testing at Kistler O'Brien Fire Protection in Bethlehem.

Brian Gregorek '97, a Becahi Wall of Fame Member, who received a BA in Economics & Business from Lafayette College, is Wealth Advisor at Buckingham Strategic Wealth, in the St. Louis, MO metropolitan area.

Michael Shetty '98, who received a BS in International Business from Pepperdine University, is Senior Director, Analytics at DIRECTV in the metropolitan Los Angeles area.

Jason Shivok '98, who studied Computer Engineering at Lehigh University, is Senior Software Developer at NetApp in the Lehigh Valley.

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Tom Derhammer '99, who received a BS in Computers and Information Systems from Kings College and an MEd in Educational/Instructional Technology from Kutztown University, and MEd in Educational Leadership from Lehigh University, is Director Of Technology at the Parkland School District.

Robert Spirk '00, whose undergraduate studies were at West Chester University, is Home and Community Habilitation Supervisor at LifePath, Inc., providing compassionate care with dignity and respect, in Bethlehem.

Michael Story '01, a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran, who received a BS in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas at Grantham, is Surgical Sales Executive at Photocure, delivering transformative solutions to improve the lives of bladder cancer patients, in Greenville, NC.

Mark Borda '02, who received a BS in Accounting from Lehigh University, is Director, Senior Wealth Advisor at Mariner Wealth Advisors.

Michael Reyes '03, who received a BS in Architecture from Temple University, is Project Manager at CRB, a leading provider of sustainable engineering, architecture, construction and consulting solutions to the global life sciences and food & beverage industries, in Allentown.

Cindy Rivera '03, is Administrative Assistant at El Shaddai Bethlehem Ministries in Bethlehem.

Meaghan Sweeney '04, who received a BS in Biology from Randolph-Macon College, is Lead Lab Technician at SGS Minerals in Denver.

Siobhan Koslap Haddigan '05, who received a BS, BFA in Printmaking from Kutztown University and a MSW in Clinical/Medical Social Work from Temple University, is Family Therapist at Child Guidance Resource Centers in Philadelphia.

Justine Farnack Petros '06, who received a BS in Healthcare Administration from the University of Scranton, is Program Coordinator at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX.

Joshua Liedke '07, is an Electrician for Liedke Construction in Bethlehem.

Arianna Santa '08, is warehouse Manager at BatteryZone in Bethlehem.

Stephanie Waldt '08, who received a BSBA in Marketing from Elon University, is Global Product Marketing Manager at GumGum, a contextual-first global digital advertising platform that captures people's attention, without the use of personal data, in the New York City metropolitan area.

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Michael Keenan '09, who received a BS in Marine Science-Chemistry from the University of Tampa, is Lab Supervisor at iGas USA, Inc., a refrigerant manufacturer, and reclaimer, in Tampa.

Emily Chambers '10, who received a BS in Behavioral Neuroscience from Lehigh University and a Masters of Liberal Arts in Bioinformatics from Harvard University Extension School, is Data Solutions Manager at Takeda Oncology, the Global Oncology Business Unit of Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited, in Cambridge, MA.

Autumn Poloni '11, who received a Bachelor's Degree in Hotel/Motel Administration from Johnson & Wales University, is Catering Supervisor at Sodexo in the Saucon Valley area.

Annemarie Toolan '12, who received an AAS in Graphic Communications from Northampton Community College, is a Warehouse Associate for Stitch Fix in Bethlehem.

Jessica Jandres '13, who received a BA in Economics from New York University is Channel Solutions Specialist at TRUCE Software, a simple way to manage mobile device distractions and protect your connected workforce across the workday, in the greater Macon area.

Madeline Lopez Maver '13, who received a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Villanova University and a Master of Engineering in Systems Engineering from Cornell University, is Cybersecurity Systems Engineer at Lockheed Martin in Moorestown, NJ.

Hanna O'Reilly '14, who received a BA in English from Saint Joseph's University and an MBA in Marketing from the University of Scranton, is an On-Air Reporter at 69 news WFMZ.

Kathryn Spirk '15, who received a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from Bloomsburg University, is a Private Investigator Intern / Assistant at American Detective Agency in Bethlehem.

Cole Karam '16, who studied at Lehigh University, received a BA in Urban Design and Architectural Studies at New York University, and a Master's Degree in Architecture from the Ohio State University, is heading to Miami for his first job.

Luke Karam '16, who received a Bachelor's Degree in English Language and Literature from Lehigh University and will receive a Master's Degree in Communication from West Virginia University this May, is a Sales Executive in Bethlehem.

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Gabriel Lonardo '17, who received a BS in Health Sciences and Global Religions from Moravian University, is Care Management Liaison at St. Luke's, and looking to grow professionally.

Caroline Margle '17, who received a Bachelor's Degree in News-Media and Psychology from the University of Alabama, is Campaign Executive at Diffusion PR, Public Relations and Communications Services, in New York, NY.

Olivia Borges '18, who received a BS in Biology from the University of Scranton, is a Research Technician/Lab Manager in the Han Lab at Duke University.

Christian Castelo '18, who received a Bachelor's Degree in Business, Corporate Communications at Duquesne University, is Senior Client Processing Representative at BNY Mellon in Pittsburgh.

The chart below shows that 295 grads from 46 classes were mentioned this year in **Tidings**... Find out who they are in past issues, on-line at <https://becahi.org/alumni/alumni-newsletter/>

Tidings Alumni Newsletter Statistics - 2023

2023

BlinkedIn Names/Profiles and Classes Mentioned

	70s	80s	90s	00s	10s	
		5	5	5	5	
		5	5	6	5	
		6	5	5	5	
10	10	10	10	10	10	
5	5	5	5	5	6	
5	5	5	5	5	6	
5	5	5	5	5	7	
5	7	5	5	5	7	Classes
10	10	10	10	10	15	46
5	5	5	5	5		Grads
45	63	60	61	66		295

**Get (re)connected.
Take advantage of the Becahi Alumni network!**

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Reflection

Mother's Day is coming soon, and, as we were taught by our parents and teachers...May is dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Jesus. So,



Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women,
And blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now, and at the hour of our death.

Amen

And now...

Despite every effort to prevent errors, sometimes they occur. If I inadvertently misinterpreted a story or fact, or if your name has been omitted or misspelled, please notify me and/or the Advancement Office and accept my sincerest apologies. And...

If you have any stories, comments, concerns, opinions, etc., that you'd like to share, please let us know.

Previous Issues of the *Tidings* can be found on the school's website by copying the following link and pasting it to your browser... <https://becahi.org/alumni/alumni-newsletter/>

Sincerely,
JohnnieO (**John O'Boyle '70**)
jobisob1@yahoo.com

Key Points of Contact at the school:

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Sarah Lumi, Events Coordinator, 610 866-0971 ext. 323 slumi@becahi.org

Tom Vresics '81, Director of Advancement, 610 866-0791, ext. 331 tvresics@becahi.org