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NEWSPAPER!

# The St. Gabriel Gazette

See the ads on the back page!

**SGG Staff:**

- Mrs. McCaffrey,  
Editor-in-Chief
- Andrew Stephens,  
Newspaper Manager
- Matthew Pranaitis,  
Newspaper Manager

**Reporters**

- Mark Mossberg
- Will McCaffrey
- Mackenzie Collyer
- Allison Smith
- Elizabeth May
- Maebh Sheelan
- Nicole Bilodeau

## St. Gabriel School—50th Anniversary

In fifty years, St. Gabriel School has graduated over 3,000 students who have joined the world community; facing personal, professional, and spiritual challenges with success and achievement. This is a testament to us all. Saint Gabriel School remains true to the goals established in 1956. Administration, faculty and parents put forth a concerted effort to provide an education for the whole child:

academic excellence and a solid framework of Christian values within a nurturing school community. Throughout its history, the very essence of the school has been its people, who remain tireless in their commitment to our children.



**From the Desk Of  
Mr. Donnelly:**

Dear Parents/  
Guardians and Staff:

This year I have experienced the most enthusiastic start to the school year in memory. Our outstanding teachers have approached their classes with a new vitality and exuberance. The Archdiocese has continued its scholarship program for the second consecutive year. We have been given \$20,000 in scholarship

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### Then and Now : Pictures of the Month—The Front Hallway



1956



2006

## Picture Gallery of the 50th Anniversary



Do you recognize any of these pictures or the people in them?  
If you do, please let us know at 688-6401 or [information@stgabrielschool.org](mailto:information@stgabrielschool.org)

### From the Desk of Mr. Donnelly (continued from pg. 1)



money to be awarded confidentially to students in need. Our computer lab has new computers with flat screens. The After-School Program has been restructured and students are raving about the fun they are having. An art and dance component will be added to the program shortly. After a careful screening and selection process new staff members have been added whose backgrounds and experience complement that of the expertise and professionalism of the existing staff. The Administration is implementing a program whose purpose is to provide partial-tuition rebates to staff members, both full-time

and part-time. Strategic plans are being formulated in the areas of public relations, community service projects and the accelerated integration of technology within the curriculum. The newly-reorganized School Board has added several new members who are working in a positive, harmonious, and constructive manner. The Home and School Association has enthusiastically accepted the goals they have established for themselves this year. The magazine sale which has just been completed has not only met its goal of 1200 magazine subscriptions, but has surpassed it! Finally, enrollment at St. Gabriel School has

increased for the second consecutive year, reversing a trend of declining enrollment.

In sum, we are off to an exciting and successful school year. I am confident that the momentum which has begun will continue and increase through the year as result of the respectful and positive approach already demonstrated. At the same time we acknowledge that any good that we accomplish is due to the Divine Providence of God through Whom alone all good things are possible.

Yours in Christ,  
*Peter I. Donnelly*

## Do You Know Who This Is? →



R. Coburn

**By Elizabeth May (7)  
And Maebh Sheelan (7)**

Believe it or not, the person in the photo is actually Mrs. Farrelly. We did an interview with Mrs. Farrelly to see how different the school was back then compared to now.

**Who were your teachers?**

There were two of each grade compared to now and Mrs. Martin, the previous principal and librarian, was also my fourth grade teacher.

**Were your teachers nice in your own opinion?**

I thought they were very nice. They were not as mean as people think they were.

**How different do you think the school was compared to what it is like now? Name a few things.**

There is only one class now. There was no kindergarten and no lunch program, but there was a hot dog day every Thursday and they sold popcorn every day.

**How many years did you go to school here?**

I went to school for eight years here.

**Did you enjoy it? What was one of your best memories?**

Middle school recess was fun. We played kickball. One year the school took the middle school on a field trip to Mountain Park, an amusement park.

**Do you still talk to people that used to be in any of your classes?**

Mrs. Pepin, the school nurse last year. Most of the people I talk to still live in Windsor or work in the fire department. My husband was 2 years ahead of me in school.

**Why did you come back here to work ?**

My kids used to go to school here and I wanted a schedule that was similar to theirs. That was about 15 years ago and I started out as the custodian. And then I was the aide to kindergarten.

## Second Generation at St. Gabriel School—The Collyer Family

**By Mackenzie Collyer (4)  
and Peyton Collyer (2)**

This is a story about my dad when he was in St. Gabriel School. He was here from 1980-1984. My dad's favorite memory is when his friend Mac stood a dead pigeon on Sister Catherine's window at recess. He had her class that afternoon and she nearly passed out when she saw it looking in on her. His principal was Mr. Hoagan. His siblings went here too, and their

names are Mike (the oldest) and Christine (the youngest). My dad's favorite teacher was Mrs. Messina. His favorite subject was Math. They also had spring and winter concerts. His favorite one was in the spring. His favorite school

lunch was pizza. My dad's favorite recess activity was dodgeball, boys vs. girls.

**What he liked most about the school was every thing, except when he got in trouble (which wasn't that much).**



(left:) sixth grade class of '82; (right:) Rich Collyer in '82

**Do you like your job as the administrative assistant?**

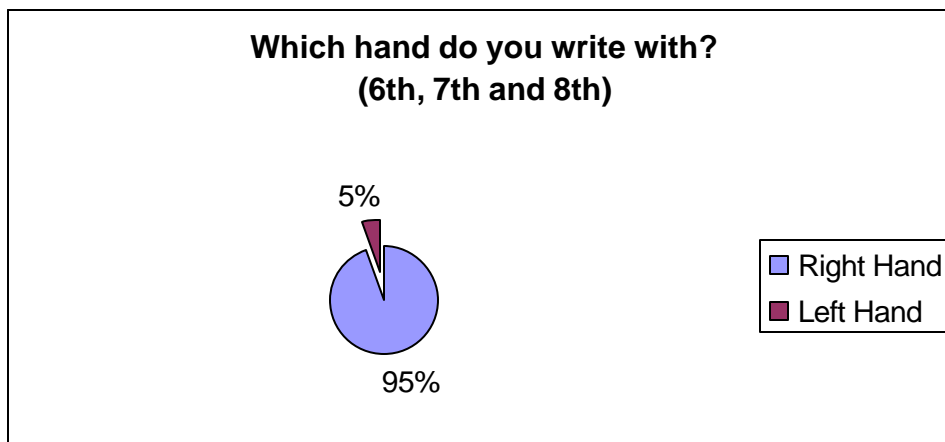
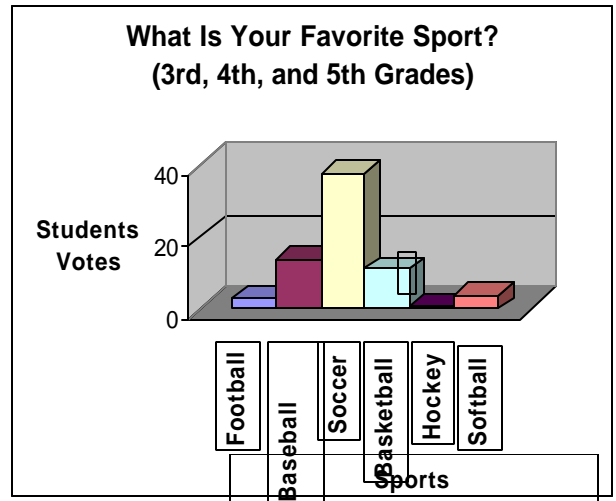
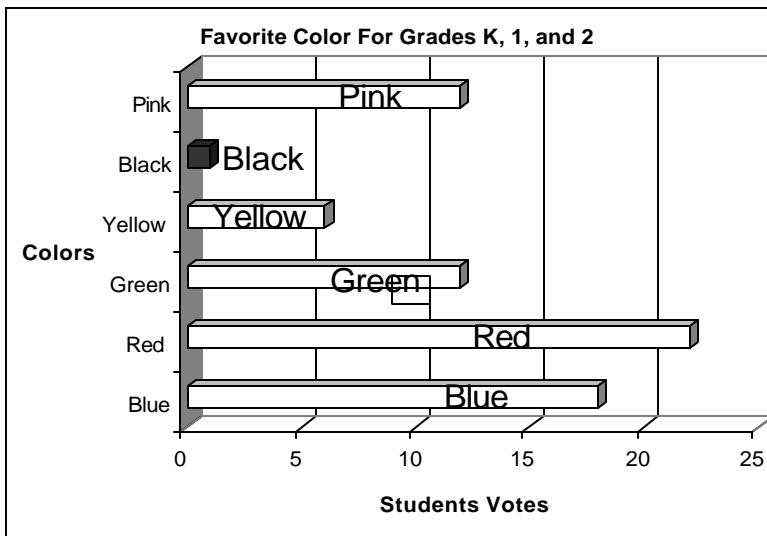
Yes, I am enjoying the job so far.

**Thank you Mrs. Farrelly for letting us interview you.**



## Spotlight on a Grade—6th Grade Math

Through collaboration with Mrs. McCaffrey, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade math class constructed graphs by using Excel. The class was broken into cooperative groups, which researched and gathered data about the students of St. Gabriel School. They used this data to create individual graphs from the data they collected with their groups.



The graphs that you see are from the 6th grade mathematics class. The information was collected from the different groups' data.

## Home and School News—Magazine Drive Exceeds Goal!

This year the St. Gabriel School Magazine Drive was a huge success. Our goal was to obtain 1,200 orders, and to date, 1,275 orders totaling a little over \$26,000 in sales have been submitted. In addition to prizes awarded to students for the number of orders turned in, nearly half of the student body earned a dress down day on Friday the 15th to celebrate achieving an individual goal of 6 orders.

A Pizza Party was awarded to Grade 5, the class with the most orders per student (11 orders/student).

The Magazine Drive Mascot, which traveled each Turn-In Day to the classroom with the highest participation for that day, was also awarded permanently to Grade 5 for the highest overall participation (92%).

40% of all sales will go to the school, so this fundraising effort raised over \$10,000 for St. Gabriel.

Congratulations to the top five sellers in the school:

**Anna Walker (5),  
75 orders**

**Allison Flores (6),  
35 orders**

**Miranda King (8),  
35 orders**

**Eamon Doolittle (K),  
31 orders**

**Allison Smith (6),  
30 orders**

### Do you have late orders?

Well, it's never too late to submit orders online. Check out the school website [www.stgabrielschool.org](http://www.stgabrielschool.org) that links directly to QSP for online magazine orders.

By using the school website, St. Gabriel automatically earns 40% of online sales, and by completing the optional student information at checkout, any online orders placed throughout the year can still count toward the Home & School family fundraising credit.

Questions about the magazine drive can be directed to Victoria Scanlon, 688-5007.

## Staff Stuff - Things You May Not Know About our Staff

*By Nicole Bilodeau (6)*  
Starting with this edition, there will be tidbits of news concerning the staff and teachers in school. Since we are all working to foster a family atmosphere, this would be an ideal way of letting students and parents know that teachers and staff REALLY ARE HUMAN and DO NOT LIVE AT THE SCHOOL. Enjoy the new feature.....

It may seem overwhelming at first, but this month and next, we will present the tidbits which took place over the past school year.

**Miss Rosa, Grade Eight**, was nominated and elected to WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICA'S TEACHERS. She's so deserving of this honor. Great job, Miss Rosa!

**Mr. Conlin, Middle School**, mispronounced his new bride's name when he was reciting his wedding vows. Good thing his new bride has a sense of humor!

**LUCKY SEVENS-Miss Witwicki**, Kindergarten, will become the bride of Filippe Nunes on July 7, 2007 (7-7-07) Congratulations!

**Mrs. Doty, Grade Seven**, was elected to WHO'S WHO AMONG AMERICA'S TEACHERS. This is her fourth WHO'S WHO category in which she is included. Great Job!

**Mrs. Noonan, Religious co-coordinator and Aide**, was treated by her son, Barry, to a trip to Sedona Arizona and the Grand Canyon. One major highlight was visiting the "Chapel of the Holy Cross" overlooking Sedona's famous Red Rocks, near the Village of Oak Creek. That must have been fun!

**Miss Barret, Grade Three**, will marry Mark Bonaguide on June 16, 2007. Best wishes!

**Mrs. McCafferey, Computer Science**, is also evening professor at Asnuntuck Community College. She is able to boast about teaching technology to all age groups; from students in kindergarten to senior citizens. Wow!

**Mr. White, Grade Six**, finished his softball season with a grand slam. Awesome job, Mr. White!



SAINT GABRIEL SCHOOL

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**Congratulations to our HOPE Volunteer  
Winners this Year!**

**Barbara Peyton  
Corinna Mossberg**

**For Sale:**

**There is a flute for sale. It was only used for  
1 year and it's in great condition. It is selling  
for a reasonable price. For information  
please call Rosa at 683-2508.**

**Saint Gabriel School  
21<sup>st</sup> Annual  
Goods & Services Auction**

**Saturday November 11, 2006**

Silent Auction begins at 6:00 pm  
Live Auction begins at 7:30 pm

\$12/person advance sales  
\$15/person at the door

**The Elk's Lodge, 130 Deerfield Rd, Windsor, CT**  
For information or to make reservations,  
call 688-6401

Vacation Get-Aways, Home Décor, Electronics,  
Services and Much More!

Treat yourself to a fun-filled evening with  
music, hors d'oeuvres, desserts and hot & cold  
beverages!!

# After School Program

**Why do students love the new after school program?**

Younger students participate in many fun and creative activities such as painting, jewelry making, sculpturing, and arts and craft projects. Musical and dance activities, board games and block building are also offered. Older students get a head start on their homework and then choose from a variety of games to play with their friends.

At 4:00 everyone joins together for outside fun, or they go to the gym depending on the weather.

The dedicated staff plans activities and offers homework guidance.

Students may attend the program for as may or as few days as they want.

After school is \$12.00 a day. From 2:45 to 3:00 is \$5.00.

Before school care  
from 7:00–7:30  
Cost \$5.00

**The after school phone number is 558-9146.  
Please—Do not call the school number!!**



The eighth grade held a car wash Saturday the 16th at Bart's. The 8th grade raised \$260.00. this was the first fund raiser of many to help with graduation expenses.