



The Madonna Trumpet

MADONNA HIGH SCHOOL—REGINA COELI ORA PRO NOBIS

Fall 2024

Volume 10, Issue 6

Madonna High School Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Madonna High School has inducted eight new members to the Hall of Fame Class of 2024. This year's class celebrates individuals who have each made a lasting impact at Madonna High School. Congratulations to this year's class!

- ◆ Leah Alexandra Comis '06 was inducted in the category of Athletic Excellence
- ◆ Jason D'Alesio '96 was inducted in the category of Athletic Excellence
- ◆ Raymond L. Kaczynski was inducted in the category of School Service (posthumously)

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Madonna High School Hall of Fame Class of 2024

- ◆ Joseph J. LaMantia, Jr. '69 was inducted in the category of School Service
- ◆ John Lesho, Sr. '59 was inducted in the category of Coaching Excellence
- ◆ Luke R. Myers '03 was inducted in the category of Stewardship
- ◆ Max Nogay '10 was inducted in the category of Athletic Excellence
- ◆ Jean Shotting was inducted in the category of School Service

The Class of 2024 was inducted during a ceremony on Saturday, October 5, 2024, at Williams Golf and Country Club.

This is the 7th Hall of Fame class to be inducted and this class will join the following Madonna High School Hall of Fame members:

2022: Al Boniti, Katie Deter Dahlheim, Dr. Samuel Licata, Dr. John Przybysz, Ronald Rogowski, Craig Rumora

2020: John Avoli, Chuck Boniti, Cris and Lisa Enrietti Conti, Juliana DeLuca, Ed and Charlie Klee, Bob Kramer, Sarah Setcavage, Kristen Finley Sobota

2018: Timothy Castelli, Norman D. Ferrari, Jr., Norman D. Ferrari, III, Edward Fusiek, John Harcharic, Peter Horoszko, Maureen Lafferty, Richard Mahoney, Richard Martijevich, Paul Paolisso, Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace.

2016: Joyce Kaczynski-McCarthy, Harold Miller, Jr., Dr. Edward Neely, Ron Sekersky, George Vargo, Robert Valenti, Bill Zanieski

2014: John Backel, Robert Canei, Melvin Coleman, Donald and Betty Gianni, John Greco, Jayne Andochick Kline, Babe Lesho, Diocese of Wheeling Charleston.

2012: Bill Barrett, Joanna Bernabei-McNamee, John Capito, Romie Castelli, Don Donell, James White Construction, Joe Krivak, Dan McCune, Msgr. Daniel Patrick Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Starvaggi, Gene Trosch, Walter Wieloh



On September 11, 2024, we celebrated a Blue Mass with St. Joseph the Worker Grade School and St. Paul School in remembrance of the events of 9/11 and to honor all law enforcement officers, firefighters, EMS, and all first responders who help keep our community safe.

The Blue Mass allows us to remember not only the heroes of 9/11 but also the heroes in our own community, the women and men who themselves in harm's way daily to serve, protect and defend us.

Congratulations to our theology teacher Luke Iyengar on his Ordination to the Diaconate at Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church on Sunday. Best Wishes Deacon Luke!

May God's blessings be upon you as you begin your new ministry.





The Rustic Mechanicals presented Shakespeare's classic tragedy, Julius Caesar to Weirton Madonna High School students as part of their 2024 Lend Me Your Ears Tour!

Madonna students were invited to attend the Project BEST Career Fair in Wheeling. Those who participated were: Mathew Geer, Hunter Smith, Aubrey Duckworth and Mira Jasko.



Three of our Madonna student-athletes attended the WVSSAC Chic-Fil-A Leadership Summit in Morgantown. Pictured (l-r) Rylee Birkhiemer, Andre Crossland, Lacy Quering, and Dr. Bowden, who served as chaperone.



Thank you to everyone who voted for us and got us to a Finalist position in the Herald Star/WDT "Best of the Best" for Kids & Education! Mr. Heckathorn attended the ceremony in October to accept our award.



8 sophomores are participating in the Weirton Area Chamber of Commerce's Youth Leadership Program.

Those participating are:
Brooklynn Cherepko; Danyka DeCaria; Lucia DiBacco; Jake Goddard; Marleigh O'Brien; Madison Owens; Lacy Quering and Sophia Soly.



In October, Mr. Heckathorn and Mrs. Granato attended an awards luncheon & ceremony at Stonewall Resort to accept an award from the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission in recognition of the school's efforts to help students prepare for college and other higher education opportunities. There were only 40 high schools in WV who were awarded this distinction and we are honored to be the only Catholic school!



Madonna juniors and seniors attended The West Virginia Associate of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers college fair held at Brooke HS. Thanks to Brooke for their hospitality!



St. Joseph the Worker School holds Annual Oktoberfest!



[St. Joseph the Worker School](#)



St. Paul School Celebrates 100 years!



[St. Paul School](#)



Victory! Madonna Alumni beat Weir Alumni in the Annual Golf City Championship at Williams Country Club in August. Always a fun day! Go Blue!



Madonna Class of 2014 celebrated their 10 year reunion. They reminisced by walking the halls/grounds of Madonna and then had a fun filled night at 7 Ranges in Steubenville, OH. Even their class moderator Ms. Shottling stopped by for some fun. Thanks for sharing your photos with us!





Congratulations to Madonna Alumnus, Theo Mihellis, Class of 2023. Theo Mihellis is only 20 years old- but his list of accomplishments in pool trick shots has him known all over the world.

Dan McCune ('80) and son, Patrick ('11) recently enjoyed a round of golf at the Royal Dornoch Golf Club in Dornoch, Scotland with Phil Trella ('62), who is a member of this top-ranked golf course.



IN MEMORIAM

We ask that you pray for the repose of the souls of our dearly beloved Madonna family members who have recently passed away including:

- Darlene Capito
- Jean Marie Krivak
- Chris Crago

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

If you know of any deceased Madonna alumni or friends of the school, please contact Madonna at 304-723-0545.

SAVE the DATES:

- December 20, 2024: Feast of the 7 Fishes
- February 8, 2025: Super Bowl Eve Tailgate
- March 29, 2025: Madonna 5K

*Madonna High School Alumni were well represented in the
2024 City of Weirton Hall of Fame Inductees.*

Deb (Kucan) Witkowski, Class of 1971 was honored for Education and Religion. Deb was the creative force of WTOV9's "What Would Deb Do" for 19 years and remains involved in the Ohio Valley community emceeding the Steubenville Summer Concert Series. She was a member of the Weirton Area Parks and Recreation Board for 18 years. For 13 years Deb was a Weight Watchers Leader in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia until the company discontinued face-to-face meetings. Her drive and desire to continue the health and wellness journey with her members brought about GOAL (Giving Ourselves Amazing Lives); which meets at the Millsop Community Center where she coaches Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Deb also continues to educate through music with her husband, Rick – Studio L, as they've been contracted to write and produce music for a variety of kids' online shows, and the two continue to give Ohio Valley businesses audio logos through jingles for tv and radio.

George Vargo, Class of 1970, has been Director of Weirton Housing Authority for 45 years. Prior to his final season as Madonna boys basketball coach, where he coached for 27 years and was the State Champion coach in 2011. George also coached at Franciscan University.

Bob Maslowski was honored in the Education and Religion category. Bob was Valedictorian of the Madonna 1964 class. After receiving a football scholarship to play at Holy Cross University, Bob became an archeologist in the Huntington, West Virginia District, Army Corp of Engineers. He taught as an adjunct instructor at Marshall University Graduate College as well as Concord University. Besides working in the Ohio Valley, Bob worked as an archeologist in Texas, Israel, Cyprus, Vietnam and Laos.

Jim Pauchnik is a 1964 graduate. Jim was selected for Community Service in the Hall of Fame. After attending West Liberty University, Jim served aboard the Nuclear Submarine USS Will Rogers for four years. Jim was the Executive Director of the Weirton United Way and served Community Bread Basket for twenty years. Jim is married to Linda Pauchnik (Class of 1965). Jim and Linda have one son, Brian (Class of 1988) and one daughter, Michelle Buterbaugh (Class of 1993). Jim was a former Golf Coach at MHS.



FALL SPORTS AT MHS



Football

Volleyball



Cheer



Cross Country



SENIORS



CHEER



VOLLEYBALL



FOOTBALL



*"do EVERYTHING for the GLORY of
GOD" 1Corinthians 10:31*



With your help we can reach our 2024-
2025 goal of \$150,000! Click [here](#) to make
your gift today!

The Blue Don Fund supplements funds needed to educate our students that tuition alone does not cover. The funds collected from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 go to purchasing text books, classroom supplies, professional development for staff, and upkeep of the physical plant. Your generous donations have been essential to keeping Madonna High School successful for over 65 years. To make your impact today, please send your tax-deductible donation to:

Madonna High School
Attn: Advancement Office
150 Michael Way
Weirton, WV 26062

or go to weirtonmadonna.org/giving/

**Your donation could be matched by your employer!
Check with your HR Department to see if your employer has a matching gift program.**

ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA? KEEP UP TO DATE ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS AT MADONNA HIGH SCHOOL.



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[MADONNA ALUMNI UPDATE FORM](#)

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Do you know of alumni who would like to receive information from Madonna? Please let us know!

FAITH, FAMILY, SERVICE...THROUGH MARY

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING MADONNA HIGH SCHOOL?

THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

- ◆ Volunteer
 - ◆ Serve on a committee
 - ◆ Donate to the Blue Don Fund
 - ◆ Include Madonna in your will

For more information please contact Stephanie (Sharpe) O'Brien, '90 at 304-723-0545 or sobrien@weirtonmadonna.org