Friends helping friends, businesses helping nonprofits

What happens when you mention to a friend that the monastery is running low on back-ordered sanitizer? Your friend has a friend and low and behold, a need is met—thanks to Mazza Vineyards and Five & 20 Spirits and Brewing.

It all started when Sister Dianne Sabol shared the problem with Oblate Margaret Kloecker. It just so happens Margaret is a friend of Kathie Klemen Mazza, a classmate of hers since 3rd grade through high school. By the way, all three attended St. Benedict Academy (SBA), classes ’70 and ’68 respectively. And as you well know, the SBA Alum truly upholds faithfulness, generosity, outreach and care. The Alum has been ongoing in their contributions to the community’s ministries since St. Benedict Academy closed in 1988.

“Kathie Klemen Mazza and her husband are the owners of Mazza Vineyards and Five & 20 Spirits & Brewing,” explained Sister Dianne. “Desiring to help their community they gave their distillery a new purpose and have begun producing hundreds of gallons of hand sanitizer to help with the shortage brought about by the coronavirus pandemic.” Margaret shared: “When I asked Kathie if she might help out the sisters, she responded enthusiastically and she immediately put me in touch with the staff at Five & 20. After conferring with Sister Diane Rabe (Monastery Coordinator and SBA Class of ’69) I picked up 10 gallons of sanitizer and delivered it to the monastery.”

A group effort among friends who just happened to be SBA Alum, responded to a need at the monastery; a gift was given and gratefully received. The kindness will not be forgotten. “Five & 20 is donating the sanitizer to nonprofits and community organizations that need it and the Erie Benedictines are certainly grateful to them for this donation in response to our need,” said Sister Anne Wambach, prioress. “Friends helping friends, businesses helping nonprofits—a ray of light in a time that threatens darkness and proof that the SBA spirit remains alive and well. Thank you, one and all.”

Keep in Touch…

We want to hear from you! Class reunions every five years are a tradition with SBA alumnae. We will gladly include information regarding your reunion on our website. Send us the facts and we’ll post them as soon as we get them. Please provide us with any follow up stories and photos (digital, please) you might wish to share, and we will post them on our website (ErieBenedictines.org/sba-alum). Call Ann Comstock at 814-899-0614 ext. 2573 or contact by email: sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org.

Please visit our Website

Visit ErieBenedictines.org/sba-alum for event updates and to download sign-up forms, or send your email address to Alumnae Director Ann Comstock at sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org to receive electronic reminders and sign-ups. If you don’t use email, write to Ann at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, 6101 East Lake Road, Erie, PA, 16511. Whenever you see or hear about SBA alumnae being honored or highlighted for their achievements, let us know. Clip an article or jot down the details then call, write or email us the information so we can share the news with all our members.
Let us pray…

For our SBA alumnae who passed into eternity—

Sister Irene Warchol, OSB .......................’43
Eileen C. May Mele .................................’49
Sister Dorothy Szczypinski, OSB ..........’49
Agnes Ruza Priscaro .................................’53
Rita L. Krasinski Desser .........................’54
Theresa D. Narducci Reisenweber ..........’54
Geraldine L. Kinecki Tomczak .................’55
Evelyn A. Zmijewski Gostomski ..............’55
Mary Ann Benecki Toohey ......................’55
Barbara Finchio Carpenter ......................’57
Sister Kathryn Disbrow, OSB .................’57
Emelia L. Marchini DeSanti ..................’58
Mary Elizabeth Kaliszewski Baker ..........’59
Martha Wozniak Markiewicz .................’59
Christine SzumiGala ...............................’60
Joan Angelotti Heubel .........................’60
Dianne Bernard ..................................’63
Margaret Kearney Krumpe .....................’68
Jean Sardini Fink .................................’72
Agnes P. Borowicz Majczyk

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS 2020 – 2021

For the 2020 – 2021 school years, we awarded 25 scholarships of $250, a total of $6,250, to alumnae relatives who will be attending Catholic grade schools or high schools in the fall of 2020. These awards have exceeded $86,000 since we began the program in 1991. Funding for these scholarships come from monies raised by the Alumnae Association at the annual Christmas Party and the Cash Bingos.