

Forest Hills Alumni Association

Names 2011 Class of Distinguished Alumni

The Forest Hills Alumni Association has announced the names of the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Class. Award recipients are graduates of Forest Hills High School or its precursor school districts. Each of the appointees is an individual who has made a significant contribution to mankind in the areas of medicine, research, education, politics, law, athletics, architecture, or in any area of the individual's profession.

The 2011 Class of Distinguished Alumni includes the following:

Frank Alcamo

Frank was born on May 25, 1920 to Carmelo and Antonia Alcamo in South Fork PA. He is a 1938 graduate of South Fork High School, and received a Bachelor of Science in 1942 from Indiana State College. Frank earned his Master's Degree from Penn State University in 1954.



Frank has had a distinguished career as an educator, author, and community servant. His educational career began in 1942 at Wilmore High School, a precursor district of the Forest Hills School District, and culminated as principal in the Windber Area School District when he retired in 1981. Over the years his positions included:

- Math and Science Teacher at Wilmore High School 1942-1954
- Math and Science Teacher at Beaverdale-Wilmore High School 1954-1956
- Math Teacher at South Fork Croyle HS 1956-1061
- Math Teacher at Triangle Area HS 1961-1962
- Principal at Windber Area HS 1963-1981

Mr. Alcamo's role in the community was that of a giant. He was one of the founders and a current Director of the CBW Schools Federal Credit Union in 1956. He served as Chairman of Windber Police CSC 1966-1981, Vice President of Windber Public Library 1976-1981, was on the Board of Directors – Johnstown-Windber Industrial Development Association, a member of the Cambria County Historical Society 1988-1993, and Senior Activities Center – Cambria County 1994-1998.

Frank was on the Board of Directors and Treasurer of Windber Recreation Association 1974-80, was Somerset County Secondary Principals Association President 1965-66, Greater Johnstown Association of School Retirees President (1983-85, 1988-91, 1995-96), and PIAA District V Treasurer 1970-80. Frank was inducted into the Windber Hall of Fame in 1984. He is currently on the Board of AAA Southern Pennsylvania, York PA.

Mr. Alcamo served his country as a Lieutenant (j.g.) in the USNR from 1944-46 and was elected to the Windber Hall of Fame in 1984. Mr. Alcamo was a true life-long learner.

Retirement was the beginning of Mr. Alcamo's new career as an author and community servant. He is the author of The Windber Story 1983, The South Fork Story 1987, and The Summerhill Story 1992.

He was married to the late Josephine Giusto for 71 years and has one daughter, Antoinette. His hobbies include playing the trombone, Swing City Johnstown, and model railroading

Felicia Probert

Felicia was born on November 8, 1961 in Salix PA, the eldest daughter of Harry and Judy Probert. She is a 1979 graduate of Forest Hills High School and a 1983 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.



Felicia started her career as a Student Conversation Association intern at the Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site where she spun wool, dipped candles, and cooked traditional meals over an open fire. From this humble beginning, Felicia's career continued into law enforcement and resource protection assignments, first with the National Park Service (NPS), and later with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) where she has worked for the past 25 years.

In addition to Hopewell Village, Felicia's other NPS duty locations included Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Johnstown Flood National Memorial, and Valley Forge National Historical Park where she was a Park Ranger patrolling by horseback.

From 1986-88 Felicia served as a BLM law enforcement patrol Ranger, responsible for 850,000 acres of public lands within the Ridgecrest Resource Area of the California Desert Conservation Area.

In 1988 Felicia was promoted to District Ranger for the California Desert District where she was responsible for providing program leadership to the district-wide Ranger staff of 50, the largest in the BLM, carrying out law enforcement responsibilities on 12 million acres of public lands.

In 1992, Felicia moved to the national headquarters law enforcement staff and from 1992-98 served as the project manager responsible for the development of the first automated law enforcement incident reporting system in the BLM and the first system in the Department of the Interior to meet requirements of the FBI's National Incident Based Reporting Standard. Felicia managed all aspects of the project including development of user requirements, an \$800,000 contract award, software development, acceptance testing, and implementation.

From 1998-2003, Felicia became only the second person in history to serve as the National Chief Ranger of the BLM. She was responsible for BLM's law enforcement ranger function on agency-wide policy and program issues. One of her assignments included serving as the Deputy Incident Commander on the National Park Service's Pacific West Incident Management Team, where she led the team in implementing enhanced security measures for the Fair St Louis at the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St Louis Missouri in 2002 and 2003, which attracts up to one million visitors over a three day period.

Felicia currently serves as a Deputy Director in the BLM's Office of Law Enforcement and Security, supervising the national headquarters staff for the BLM law enforcement program in the oversight and leadership of all aspects of the BLM law enforcement and resource protection program. Her responsibilities include the development and implementation of law enforcement policies and procedures that cover all aspects of the law enforcement function. She is responsible for the planning and execution of the \$27+ million annual budget for the law enforcement program.

According to the James Wesley Abbot, Associate State Director of California BLM, Felicia Probert "... has consistently demonstrated the collaborative spirit necessary to succeed in an ever-changing world by forging new ground for women in non-traditional roles within the BLM.... She is living out the district's vision as a real life 'Ranger' and has truly become successful in a global society."

Felicia currently resides in Meridian, Idaho where she enjoys bicycling, hiking, and exploring the great outdoors.

Gary Poborsky

Gary, son of the late Frank and Mary Poborsky, was born on the family farm in Fishertown PA on September 8, 1942.

Gary is a graduate of South Fork Croyle High School in 1960. Upon graduation he moved to New York in search of employment. While in New York, he met his future wife and partner, Rose Dodge.



In 1964, Gary moved back to South Fork and attended the University of Pittsburgh in Moxham where he studied Mechanical Engineering. In 1966, due to the financial burden of raising the first three of his children, Gary surrendered his college plans for a position as a laborer at the Bethlehem Steel Mill, Gautier Division. While working in the scorching steel mills, the entrepreneurial spirit continued to burn in Gary, and he left the mills in 1969 in hopes that his endless energy, strong work ethic, and never-give-up attitude would someday yield success. Gary traveled across the United States as a traveling salesman selling soaps, cleaning products, juice, farm equipment, and a new technology – the video advertising machine. By July 1977 Gary's company had merged with another leaving him unemployed.

The Johnstown Flood of 1977 opened entrepreneurial opportunities as Gary and his wife Rose, with a 1,500 gallon septic pump truck, went to work helping the people of Johnstown cleaning the mud and debris from the basements of homes, businesses, and churches in the city. In July 1977, GAP Pollution and Environmental Control, Inc. was born.

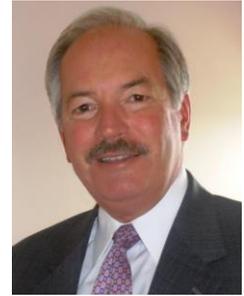
Since its inception, GAP, Inc. has been recognized as an industry leader. GAP, Inc. serves industrial accounts such as coal power plants, steel mills, cement plants, and paper mills, as well as continuing with its core business in municipal cleaning.

Gary is recognized as a leader in the environmental remediation industry, constantly bringing new technologies, methodologies, and products to the industry. With the birth of their sister manufacturing company, GAPVAX, Inc., Gary incorporated his patented design technologies into the industrial vacuum and cleaning equipment he manufactures in Moxham. GAPVAX trucks are sold across the US and in many countries throughout the world. His companies employ more than 300 people.

Gary is an entrepreneur, humanitarian, community leader, and an outstanding family man. He and his wife Rose are the proud parents of five children – Gary Jr., Tammy, Deborah, Mike, and Michelle.

Daniel Mihalko

Dan was born on January 18, 1952 in Mine 42, the son of Louis and Agnes Mihalko. He is a 1969 graduate of Forest Hills High School and a 1973 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology.



Dan's US Postal Service career started shortly after graduating from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. He had worked part-time in the Johnstown post office while attending UPJ, then became a letter carrier after graduation. He became a supervisor before receiving an appointment to become a Postal Inspector in 1978. Upon graduation from the Inspection Service Academy, he was assigned to New York, investigating fraud, mail bombs, narcotics, and child pornography. In 1986 he was promoted to National Headquarters in Washington DC where he directed the largest child pornography sting operation in history and oversaw the Unabomber investigation for two years.

As Inspector in Charge, Dan built the image and developed brand recognition of the Postal Inspection Service internally and externally by creating, developing, and promoting movies and documentaries about the agency, including the Showtime Network's "The Inspectors" series, and two Discovery Channel documentaries. He was the national spokesperson for the agency, appearing on all major networks and shows such as Larry King Live, 60 Minutes, and The Today Show.

Mr. Mihalko directed the multi-agency public relations effort of *KNOW Fraud*, the largest consumer awareness project ever undertaken in the United States. He also led the agency's communications efforts during the anthrax crisis in 2001.

According to Kenneth C. Weaver, Chief Postal Inspector (Retired,) Dan was his right hand man when dealing with Congress, the media, or with other law enforcement agencies. In many respects, Dan was known as the face of the United States Postal Inspection Service.

Dan retired from the United States Postal Service in 2003 as the Inspector in Charge of Congressional and Public Affairs for the Postal Inspection Service in Washington, DC. In addition to his law enforcement career, Dan is an accomplished, award-winning artist and illustrator whose work can be viewed at www.DanMihalkoGallery.com.

Dan is married to the former Coleen Haggerty of Westmont and is the father of two daughters, Meagan, an attorney, and Kerry, a college student.

John Logrando

John is a 1967 graduate of the first class of Forest Hills High School and played varsity football for the Rangers. He is a US Army Veteran who served from 1967-1970.



John earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Penn State University in 1974, and MBA from Shippensburg University in 1981. He has been a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Pennsylvania since 1978.

John retired from Lockheed Martin in February 2011 following 30 years of dedicated service. In total, he has amassed over 42 years of direct experience in program and engineering design, as well as technology management for companies including Rockwell International, GE, RCA, and Martin Marietta. His area of expertise focused on electronics systems for high reliability avionics and spacecraft for commercial, civil and military applications. He was responsible for all Electrical Power Subsystems Engineers employed by Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company. Working on many products in the interest of national security, John obtained and maintained Top Secret security clearances. While at Lockheed Martin, John served as the Director of Government Programs and Business Development. Over 60 spacecraft were developed and launched under his leadership and are operational for both military and commercial use.

Other past positions at Lockheed include directorship of the establishment of the Lockheed Martin Power Center, a group of 400 technical, manufacturing, and support personnel engaged in product development and technology. John was also the Director of Advanced Development and Spacecraft Architecture, responsible for all IRAD and conceptual spacecraft design functions. In 2007, John received the Lockheed Corporate Exceptional Service Award for career contributions in technology.

John was very involved in his community and an advocate for science and technology in local schools. He often hosted students, teachers, and school administrators at Lockheed for technical exposure and enhancement. He established the 8th Grade Young Women in Technology program to introduce young women to prepare for careers in technology. The yearly program has touched over 500 young women. Many have gone on to complete graduate level studies at such notable universities as Princeton and MIT. In 2003, John received corporate recognition with the Community Service Award.

John has also made contributions to academia. He served as an adjunct professor at Mercer County Community College and at the College of New Jersey. He had been an IEEE/TAC/ABET college program certification evaluator from 1989-93 and retains membership in those organizations. He is a member on the Virginia Tech and College of New Jersey technical advisory boards for Computer Science and Electrical Engineering technology.

John coached Pop Warner football and has been involved in his local church for over 25 years as an usher and volunteer. He will continue to support technology at various universities during his retirement. His hobbies include classic cars, boating, and model trains.

John has been married to the former Joan Wissinger, a 1968 Forest Hills graduate, for 41 years, and they currently reside in Yardley PA. He is the father of two children and has two grandchildren.