
Sept. 24, 2009

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Monti to keynote Francis Week 2009

Fr. Dominic V. Monti, O.F.M., former president of St. Bonaventure University, will be the featured speaker during Francis Week activities Sept. 27 through Oct. 4.

Fr. Dominic will engage the question, “What Does Theology Have to Do with Anything? The Queen of the Sciences in a Liberal Education,” at the Fr. Jerome Kelly Memorial Lecture at 4 p.m. Oct. 1 in the University Chapel.

The talk, like all Francis Week activities, is free and open to the public.

Fr. Dominic will also speak about his new book, “Francis & His Brothers: A Popular History of the Franciscan Friars,” at a 10 a. m. talk Oct. 1 in the Walsh Auditorium; and about “Mendicants in the Marketplace” from 12:30-1:20 p.m. Oct. 2 at the Friday Forum (for faculty and staff only) in the Doyle Dining Room.

A longtime professor of church history, Fr. Dominic was president of St. Bonaventure from 2003 to 2004 and is now vicar provincial of the Holy Name Province of Friars Minor.

Francis Week activities begin at 10:30 a.m. Sunday with the Family Weekend Mass in the Reilly Center Arena. The Mass will celebrate the Franciscan Jubilees of President Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F. (50 years), Fr. Louis McCormick, O.F.M. (50 years), biology professor Fr. Peter Schneible, O.F.M. (25 years), and Fr. Harry Monaco, O.F.M. (newly ordained).

Later Sunday, from 1 to 4 p.m., a Heavenly Harvest Celebration will be held at Canticle Farm, 3835 S. Nine Mile Road, Allegany. The celebration will feature a fresh salad bar lunch with homemade desserts, drawings, a cooking contest, and entertainment.

Other Francis Week events include:

“An Evening Away at Mt. Irenaeus,” 4 to 9 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 30

Transitus, 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, University Chapel, followed by a dessert reception in the Robert R. Jones Trustees Room. Transitus is the celebration of the life and passing of St. Francis.

Feast of St. Francis Eucharist, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 4, University Chapel.

All Francis Week activities are sponsored by a generous gift from John, class of 1958, and Kay Meisch of Canandaigua, N.Y.

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Bonagany 2009 welcomes families for food, friendship, fun

Saturday's Bonagany Festival in Allegany promises fun for the whole family with music, wagon rides and artist displays, complemented by savory selections from local eateries. The festival runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Main Street, which will be closed to traffic for the day.

Held during St. Bonaventure's annual Family Weekend, the festival offers a great opportunity for parents to get out and enjoy the local community.

Festival chairperson Lori Tiller encourages area residents to join the celebration, too.

"It's really one of the most family-friendly festivals of the region," she said. "Most of the activities for kids are free, including inflatable amusements, wagon rides, the balloon man, a caricature artist, a juggler, local dancing showcases, and some of my alpacas from Elderberry Farm Alpacas. There's plenty for the adults to enjoy, too, with regional artists, local eateries, festival food, classic cars, and a lineup of local music that is really fantastic."

From St. Bonaventure, the 2009-10 men's and women's varsity basketball teams and coaches will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. to conduct skills sessions for children, run a free-throw shooting contest, and sign autographs and pose for photos. The SBU cheerleaders will be performing as well. And like previous years, student clubs and associations will have informational tables and the ROTC program will provide a free rock-climbing wall.

Bonagany will feature two stages on Main Street. On the main stage, located in front of Allegany's Town Hall, the music lineup will start at 11 a.m. and will feature (in order) the Allegany Alumni Band, Living My Last Day, The Wild Rovers, and The Jam.

Stage 2, located near the Allegany Public Library, will feature The Blues Brothers of Olean and Generations, as well as performances by the Olean Area Irish Dancers and other groups from St. Bonaventure. In addition, a re-dedication ceremony of the Allegany Public Library with New York Sen. Catharine Young and Assemblyman Joseph Giglio will take place promptly at 2:45 p.m.

Bonagany 2009 also continues an emphasis on regional arts. The artists displaying this year include Deb Eck, Mike Weishan, Dee Smith, Jonathan Gilroy, Cherie Antle, Trenton Lutes, Ron and Amy Peterson, Green Pear Press and Stone Hill Studios.

"The Arts Council is proud to be part of this community event, which is so integral to the long-term relationship between Allegany's town and village and St. Bonaventure University," said committee member Anne-Conroy Baiter, executive director of the festival's co-sponsor, the Cattaraugus County Arts Council.

Bonagany was founded in 2005 with the mission of celebrating the friendship between the village and town of Allegany and St. Bonaventure University.

Local food vendors for the festival will include Randy's up the River, Angees, Pendergast Sausages, Cablecar Concessions, Larry's Food Wagon, Fowler's Taffy, and a pig roast in front of the Other Place Tavern. In addition, Main Street businesses and restaurants will have their doors open for festivalgoers.

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St. Bonaventure to start collecting stories during Family Weekend

Since the dawn of man, we have used word of mouth to pass down stories from one generation to the next, recording history. This academic year, St. Bonaventure University will join the conversation and begin orally recording its own history as part of a freshman class project.

As part of the freshman University 101 course and All-Bonaventure Reads programs, each member of the class of 2013 will interview someone connected to St. Bonaventure. These participants can be anyone: community members, alumni, faculty or staff. They do not need to be alumni or work at Bona's. If they have a story to share about the university, there are 470 freshmen who want to listen. Each interview will be recorded. The overall goal of the project is to create an oral history of the university while providing participants with a unique and heartfelt experience.

"If you have a story to tell about St. Bonaventure—what it means to you, how it has impacted your life, family or someone you know—would you share it with our freshmen?" said Nancy Casey, director of the First-Year Experience program and associate professor of education.

This project spawned directly from this year's All Bonaventure Reads selection titled "Listening is an Act of Love." The book is a compilation of short stories from peoples' everyday lives that were gathered by an independent non-profit project called StoryCorps.

StoryCorps has two permanent "listening booths" located in Grand Central Station, in New York City and in New Orleans. StoryCorps also has one mobile booth that travels all around the country, collecting peoples' experiences.

Participants enter the booth and talk to one another about subjects varying from work related experiences to Sept. 11. At the end of each session there are two recorded copies of the conversation. One copy stays with the participants and the other is sent to the Library of Congress.

St. Bonaventure is hoping to imitate StoryCorps' success by archiving peoples' stories and saving them for later generations.

The project will be kicked off this weekend during Family Weekend. Beginning on Friday, Sept. 25, students will have the opportunity to interview loved ones, friends and fellow Bonnies in the conference room of the Thomas Merton Center.

The booth at St. Bonaventure will be available from 4 to 8 p.m. on Sept. 25 and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 26. More time will be provided that Sunday if necessary.

Interested participants may sign-up for a 15-minute time slot in Plassmann Hall outside of the office of Dr. Nancy Casey, director of the First-Year Experience program and associate professor of education, or sign up on the Web at <http://pt3.sbu.edu/sbstories>

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Newsmakers

Dr. Dalton R. Hunkins, chair of the Department of Computer Science, had his electronic textbook, “Computer Graphics: An Introduction with OpenGL,” accepted for publication on the public domain site CGEMS (Computer Graphics Educational Materials Service - <http://cgems.inesc.pt/>). The “book” provides the means for a student user to explore the core topics of an introductory computer graphics course through the use of more than 35 interactive programs with supporting html pages.

Dr. Rodney Paul, professor of economics in the Department of Finance, had the paper “Are Behavioral Biases Consistent Across the Atlantic?” accepted for publication in the Journal of Gambling Business and Economics. The paper studies fan and bettor preferences for scoring in European soccer and compares the results to similar biases found in the most popular North American sports.

Also, Paul gave an invited presentation at the Centre d'Economie de la Sorbonne at the University of Paris - Pantheon-Sorbonne in Paris, France. The presentation was part of the First European Conference in Sports Economics, which included participants from Europe and around the world. The conference included presentations by frequent Financial Times contributor Stefan Szymanski and a representative of UEFA (Union of European Football Associations — who was a sponsor of the event).

For the 15th consecutive year, **Dr. Leslie M. Sabina**, professor of music, has been honored with an ASCAPLUS award. This award, given by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, recognizes established composers whose main activity is outside of broadcast media, and whose catalogs have prestige value for which they would not otherwise be compensated.

Additionally, Sabina’s publisher, Kendor Music Inc., has recently released two of Sabina’s latest big band compositions, “Brouhaha” and “Seismic Strut.” A recording session that will feature the two works is scheduled for January 2010 in Denver, Colo.

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