

# LIFESTYLES

www.theprogressnj.com

THE PROGRESS

## James Caldwell alumni hold multi-class reunion

More than 250 James Caldwell High School (JCHS) alumni gathered for a Multi Class Reunion at the Tiki Bar in Point Pleasant on Saturday, Aug. 1.

The event was organized by Stan Fitzgerald, JCHS Class of 1985, and Jerry Durr, Class of '85, son of the late Caldwell Police Chief Joseph Durr.

In charge of the Tiki Bar party was Colleen Cronin, Class of '85.

The entire event came about through the use of Facebook where word of the reunion was spread.

"Facebook has become a virtual meeting place for old and new friends to network and find each other," said Charlie Mooney, '85. "Caldwell is a common subject of discussion and rooms, clubs and now this reunion

have been born from these reconections. One such board I created entitled 'Caldwell Old School' is all about posting memories of growing up in Caldwell during the '70s and '80s," he said.

At present there are 162 postings on the list of memories including such things as "You might be Caldwell old school if...:

(You) ever made a fort under the pink cement turtle in Grover Cleveland Park.

Remember eating at Bonanza, Pier 94, Poor Henry's, Jack & Jim's or Gasoline Alley

Thought "Joe-Jack" was tough but fair and pretty cool.... for a principal."

Summing up his thoughts on grow-

ing up in Caldwell, Mooney writes, "I am thankful for how lucky I was considering all the other places and times throughout history I could have started my life. As a teen, my friends and I complained Caldwell was 'boring.' Maybe it was, but if the above list was boring then I will take it over the alternative and day.... This collection of thoughts is my way to say thanks to my parents, friends and Old School Caldwellites who made my younger years worth remembering."

### 1980 To 1989

Among those in attendance at the Aug. 1 gathering were alumni from as long ago as the JCHS Class of 1980 and as young as the Class of '89, as well as

a few "party crashers" from West Essex alumni.

"Just like high school," Fitzgerald jokes.

Some of those in attendance were Caldwell Police Lt. Marc Driggs, Class of '86; Tommy Page, Class of '85 who is a pop star in the Music Industry with a former No. 1 Hit, "I'll be your everything," as well as acting credits on shows including "Full House;" Cathy Brennan, Class of '85, and Patty Brennan, Class of '88, both daughters of Caldwell Councilman Richard Brennan.

Carolyn Koschnick, Class of '86, flew in from Japan, Maureen Cronin, Class of '88, and Melissa Gambert, Class of '84, flew in from England. Others came

from the West Coast, Florida and Massachusetts. Shane Diehl arrived from Florida, Greg Cowell from Connecticut and Doug Loucks from Arizona

Fitzgerald himself traveled from Atlanta, Ga., and co-host Durr came in from Cape Cod, Mass.

Mooney produced commemorative T-shirts with the profits going to local Caldwell charitable causes.

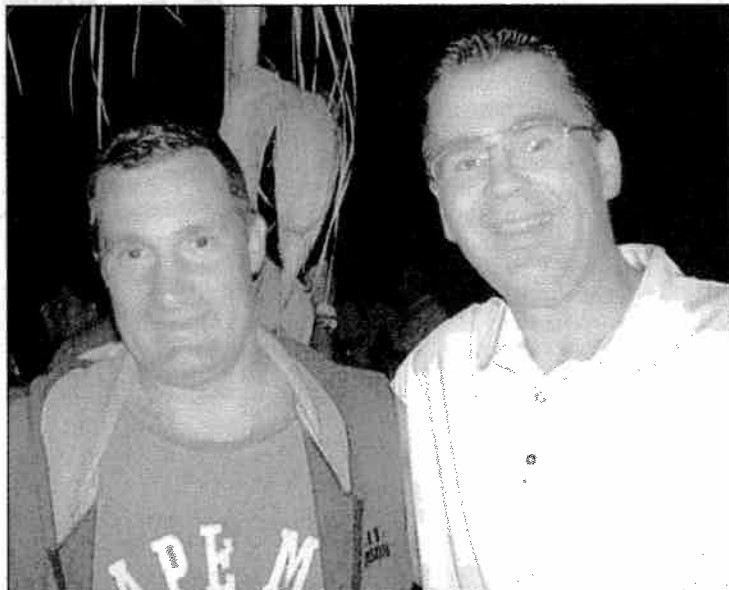
Gambert hosted a pre-party on Friday night, July 31.

Another multi-class reunion is being planned in September 2011. Anyone who would like information can e-mail Fitzgerald at forgetthegouge@aol.com or visit <http://www.facebook.com/p.php?i=732464692&k=Z5E64XT3V6YBUCCGYC42WRV>.

### >> SHARE YOUR PHOTOS

To share additional photos of the James Caldwell High School Multi Class Reunion at Point Pleasant Beach,

visit [www.theprogressnj.com](http://www.theprogressnj.com) and go to Community Connections, Share Photos.



Caldwell Police Department Lt. Marc Driggs, left, a 1986 graduate of James Caldwell High School, West Caldwell, takes some time off duty to enjoy a multi-class reunion at Point Pleasant Beach organized by Stan Fitzgerald, right, and Jerry Durr, both Class of 1985.



Stan Fitzgerald, Class of 1985, one of the co-hosts of the James Caldwell High School Multi Class Reunion at Point Pleasant, enjoys some time with, from left, Michelle Campanaro, Class of '85, Lisa Lookup, '85, and his wife, Donna Fitzgerald.

