

Mannheim, Germany and Vicenza, Italy, respectively.

**1968** **G. Martin Lively, JD**, after falling in love with Costa Rica 20 years ago, now lives there. **Donna Krueger-Phair** received the Edyth May Sliffe Award for distinguished teaching of mathematics from the Mathematical Association of American.

**1969** **Matthew McKay, MA**, is the author of the novel *Wawona Hotel*.

**1970** **Madeline Fendler, MA '91**, was chosen to be the grand marshal of the San Rafael High School homecoming

Timothy John O'Donovan '45 was named a monsignor by Pope Benedict XVI in November. Msgr. O'Donovan was ordained a Franciscan priest in 1949 and has been serving in north Idaho with the Diocese of Boise since 1958.

parade in October 2008. She has taught for 33 years at high schools in Marin County and Vallejo. **Timothy T. Ruef** is vice president for executive search firm Michael E. Marion & Associates in Murray Hill, N.J. **Terrence W. Tilley** and **Maureen A. Tilley** teach in the theology department at Fordham University where Terrence is department chair. He also is president of the Catholic Theology Society of America. Maureen is past president of the North American Patristics Society.

**1971** **Ed Quinn, E '73**, retired as superintendent of Jefferson School District in Tracy after 12 years.

## Master's Thesis Idea Raises More Than \$2 Million for Ovarian Cancer Research

**O**ver the past four years, **Kelli Sargent, MA '04**, has raised more than \$2 million for ovarian cancer research through an annual 5k race, an idea she first came up with while working on her master's thesis project.

"My mom had ovarian cancer and I was always into doing 5k events and running, so I thought, 'How about doing my thesis on putting on a 5k run/walk for ovarian cancer?'" said Sargent, who received her master's degree in sport management from USF's Orange County campus.

While working on her thesis, Sargent initially thought of the fundraising run simply as a project for class. But as she researched the idea further, she began wondering if she could really make it happen despite receiving a "B" on the assignment.

"I'm glad I got a 'B,' because I think there's always room for improvement," Sargent said. "I'm glad my professor didn't say, 'Everything is great, everything is good,' because there were things I needed to work on to actually make it happen."

In fact, Sargent worked on the idea for another 18 months before the inaugural Run For Her 5k Run and Friendship Walk was held in November 2005. That first year, about 1,000 runners and walkers participated in the Los Angeles event; last November, more than 3,000 did so. In addition to

paying a registration fee, participants can choose to raise additional money for ovarian cancer research, with all proceeds going to the Cedars-Sinai Women's Cancer Research Institute.

Sargent also views the race as an opportunity to raise awareness about ovarian cancer, which is often called the "disease that whispers" because the early warning signs often mimic those of many other common conditions. It is one of the deadliest forms of cancer and most women diagnosed with ovarian cancer live only up to five years after their diagnosis.

Sargent's inspiration for the race, her mother Nanci, lost her own battle with ovarian cancer in April 2008. Sargent said that although her mother never wanted the race to be about her, she was an integral part of it, serving on the organizing committee, speaking on stage at the post-race celebration, and triumphantly crossing the finish line each year. Last November's race was the first one without her.

"It was definitely a difficult thing, but it inspired me even more that I will never stop doing anything I can to contribute to ovarian cancer research," said Sargent, who now works as business manager for the Women's Cancer Research Institute and continues to organize the race in her free time. **USF**



Kelli Sargent, MA '04, turned her master's thesis into an annual fundraising run.