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On the cover
(Top) Inauguration day on September 8 began with the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S presiding at the Liturgy in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church. (Photograph by Aurora)
(Bottom, from left) In the Pavilion, the Very Rev. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., ’71 A&S, D.Min. blessed the new president. Father Donohue greeted Villanovans during a procession and at the Dinner and Festival Celebration on Mendel Field. He knows many of the midshipmen since he had served as NROTC chaplain until June. (Photographs by Paola Nogueras and John Welsh)

Among the summer interns in Villanova University’s Office of Communication and Public Affairs were (from left) Ellen Giuliano; Oscar Abello ’08 A&S; Michael Nataro ’06 A&S; Jennifer Nunan ’06 A&S; Nathaniel Brower ’08 A&S; and Andrew Sheehan ’06 A&S.
Your Alumni Association

Alumni Eagerly Answer Call to Serve

Whether volunteering to serve meals, wash cars, build houses or give blood, Villanova University alumni continually and eagerly show their commitment to helping their communities. During September, 12 chapters of the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) organized a Day of Service to celebrate the Inauguration of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S as University president. This year, the VUAA hosted Holiday Hoopla at the North Light Community Center and a Habitat for Humanity trip to Slidell, La.

Chapter projects this fall included:

- **Atlanta:** clothing drive
- **Baltimore:** Habitat for Humanity
- **Boston:** Cradles to Crayons
- **Bucks County:** LifeSpan Day Care Center
- **The Carolinas:** Loaves and Fishes Warehouse
- **Chicago:** Car wash for the Salvation Army’s Celebrate Recovery Program
- **Delaware County:** Thomcraft therapeutic horseback riding program
- **Fairfield/Westchester:** Habitat for Humanity
- **Houston:** Houston Food Bank
- **Manhattan:** Revlon Walk for Women’s Cancer
- **Monmouth/Ocean Counties:** Adopt-a-Highway and FoodBank of Monmouth and Ocean Counties
- **Northern California:** St. Anthony soup kitchen
- **New York Capital District:** Habitat for Humanity
- **Orlando:** Blood drive and Orlando Homeless Shelter clothing drive
- **Pacific Northwest:** Habitat for Humanity and Treehouse
- **Tampa Bay:** Blood drive
- **Washington, D.C.:** Our Daily Bread, D.C. Central Kitchen and collecting donations for the Poor Clare Order in Arlington, Va.

Would you like to become more involved with helping others? For a complete list of service projects hosted by local chapters, visit alumni.villanova.edu and click on Events Calendar. To organize a service project for your local chapter, please call 1-800-VILLANOVA (1-800-845-5266).

'_cats the Action at Coaches’ Nights

Villanova University alumni throughout the country enjoyed an evening of networking as Coaches’ Nights kicked into high gear this year. Alumni took part in some pre-season banter with Jay Wright (above), head coach of men’s basketball; Harry Perretta ’95 G.S., head coach of women’s basketball; and special University guests. These evenings give Wildcat fans an outlet to express their excitement and support for Villanova’s talented teams.

New Student Receptions Welcome Class of 2010

Welcome to Villanova University—a great place for a great education! That was the underlying message of Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA) chapters as they welcomed the Class of 2010 to the Wildcat family. Last summer, chapters held nearly 50 New Student Receptions throughout the country and as far away as Panama and other locales around the world.

Alumni and upperclassmen from START (Student Alumni Relations Team) greeted incoming students and their families to help allay anxiety and ease the college transition. They offered advice, answered questions and provided the opportunity for incoming students to meet fellow classmates.

Once again, Villanova demonstrated to students, parents and alumni the power of our network. The VUAA extends a hearty thanks to all reception hosts and the alumni who attended.

“Greens” Fun Raises Scholarship Funds

Thanks to some good fun on the greens and a lot of Wildcat enthusiasm, 30 Villanova students this year have received scholarship support from 12 chapters of the Villanova University Alumni Association (VUAA). These local golf outings not only generate some great times on the links for alumni and friends, but they are a way for alumni to reach out to help prospective students experience a Villanova education.

This year’s participating chapters were Atlanta, Boston, the Carolinas, Central Connecticut, Chicago, Detroit, Fairfield/Westchester, Lehigh Valley, Long Island, Manhattan, Monmouth/Ocean Counties, San Diego, Southern California and Syracuse. Your efforts can go a long way in making a Villanova education possible for a worthy student. Contact the VUAA at 1-800-VILLANOVA (1-800-845-5266) for information about organizing a golf outing in your area.

The Cincinnati Chapter’s New Student Reception

At the Philadelphia Coaches’ Night on October 19, Harry Perretta ’95 G.S., head coach of women’s basketball, met Wildcat fan Maddi Wechsler.
Celebrate VUAA Basketball at a Reception in Your Area

Don’t miss the opportunity to cheer for the ‘Cats in another exhilarating basketball season by attending a game or reception near you. In locations throughout the country, the Villanova University Alumni Association will hold alumni gatherings during the regular season and the Big East and NCAA tournaments.

Log on to alumni.villanova.edu for the 2006-07 game and reception schedule as we experience another fantastic year of Villanova basketball!

Liberty Mutual Sponsors VUAA Basketball Events

Liberty Mutual teams up with the Villanova University Alumni Association again this season to sponsor Coaches’ Nights and Basketball Receptions. Liberty Mutual gives Villanova alumni something else to cheer about with great rates on their auto, home and renters insurance through Group Savings Plus.

Call 866-477-5160 for details, or visit online at alumni.villanova.edu and click on Corporate Partners.

Meet Father Donohue at a Reception

You are cordially invited to join fellow Villanovans in a reception welcoming the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S as the 32nd president of Villanova University. The receptions are hosted by the local chapters and the Villanova University Alumni Association. This fall, he visited chapters in Boston, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Lancaster, Manhattan, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C. Please RSVP to the following events at alumni.villanova.edu.

Philadelphia Presidential Reception
Wednesday, November 29
Four Seasons Hotel
One Logan Square
6:30-9 p.m.

Chicago Presidential Reception
Wednesday, December 13
Chicago Athletic Association
12 S. Michigan Avenue
6:30-9 p.m.

Alumni Get Career Advice from Maggie Mistal ’95 VSB

A networking night on October 17, hosted by the Villanova University Alumni Association, featured Maggie Mistal ’95 VSB (above), certified career coach, speaker and radio host on career development. Prior to her presentation, more than 70 alumni from various fields were able to connect professionally over hors d’oeuvres in the stately Montrose Mansion.

The group then gathered in the Villanova Conference Center, where Mistal offered suggestions on how to capitalize on the networking connections the alumni had just created. She welcomed audience participation, and alumni actively engaged in her presentation. The Villanovans gained a greater knowledge of how to use their professional network to achieve their career goals and they benefited from her career development expertise. Mistal encouraged them to contact her for additional assistance and advice.

Mistal helps people manage and develop their careers, both individually and within companies. She assists clients through one-on-one and group coaching sessions, coupled with proven job strategies to obtain their ideal careers. She has been featured in New York Newsday and The Boston Globe.

She will offer Villanovans a networking event in Manhattan on January 10, 2007, at the Princeton Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd Street. Mark your calendar for this worthwhile professional opportunity, and bring your business cards! Register online at alumni.villanova.edu or by calling 1-800-VILLANOVA.

You can listen to Mistal live on her radio show, “Career Talk with Maggie,” on Martha Stewart Living Radio (SIRIUS 112), Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. E.S.T.

Care Packages Support Our Troops

The Villanova University Alumni Association and Villanova’s NROTC Program are co-sponsoring a collection of goods and shipment of care packages for Villanovans in the military who are serving overseas. Care packages consist of basic convenience items, snacks and complimentary Villanova carabiners. Help brighten the day for our members of the military. Please consider joining this worthy effort.

Visit alumni.villanova.edu and click on the “Send a Care Package” link.

A Golden Evening with King Tut

Friday, May 4, 2007
The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia

“Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs” Exhibit

Join fellow alumni and friends at 6:30 p.m. for your chance to see King Tut on the last stop of his final tour of this country. A limited number of group rate tickets will soon be available for purchase—check alumni.villanova.edu for more information.
Looking for a Good Read?

Alumni are invited to join in “One Book Villanova,” a program for the Villanova University community that includes special events, discussion groups and public readings throughout the academic year, all focused on the same book. This year’s pick is Blood Done Sign My Name: A True Story by Timothy B. Tyson. Tyson’s non-fiction work tells the story of the racial and sexual tension surrounding a 1970 lynching in his hometown of Oxford, N.C. “In the tradition of [the 1959 novel] To Kill a Mockingbird, Blood Done Sign My Name is a classic work of conscience, a defining portrait of a time and place that we will never forget,” notes the publisher, Random House.


Princeton Club Offers Exclusive Values for Villanovans

Do you frequently travel to, live in or work in Manhattan? Are you looking for social events, business facilities, networking opportunities or just a private place to relax in the heart of midtown? Then Associate Membership in the Princeton Club of New York (www.princetonclub.com) is for you.

Exclusively offered to Villanova University alumni, this membership includes access to Broadway theater packages, fitness facilities, private meeting space, superb dining, hotel deals, event planning and more. A great value! For more information, call 1-800-VILLANOVA (1-800-845-5266) or visit www.villanova.edu/advance/alumni/benefits.

Homecoming Pride and Festivities

Picnicking, networking, dancing and good sports events—these were just a few of the many activities that thousands of alumni enjoyed during Homecoming Weekend 2006, October 20-22. Events included a Villanova Coaches’ Night, the Alumni Family Picnic, Legacy Day, football and soccer games, and get-togethers for the Class of 2001’s Five-Year Reunion. A great Villanova tradition, Homecoming was energized by classmates reminiscing and reuniting in the white-and-blue spirit.

2001 Classmates Enjoy Five-Year Reunion

At Homecoming Weekend, the Class of 2001 celebrated its Five-Year Reunion. Classmates enjoyed special social hours, a Five-Year Reunion tent at the Alumni Family Picnic, and a Reunion Mass and brunch. It was a special and memorable experience for all who attended.

Travel with Villanovans to Your Choice Destination

Are you looking to explore the wildlife of Antarctica? Perhaps you prefer to admire the finest Renaissance art and architecture in Assisi or snorkel among the sea lions in the Galápagos Islands? Whatever your choice of destination, the Villanova University Alumni Association’s travel program invites you to join alumni, parents, relatives and friends as you travel to some of the most exotic locations in the world. Villanova tours feature stress-free planning; dependable tour operators; and exceptional tour directors, guides and crews.

Upcoming trips include:

- **Expedition to Antarctica**
  January 12-25, 2007

- **The Wonders of the Galápagos Islands**
  February 2-10, 2007

- **Village Life along the Dutch Waterways**
  April 12-20, 2007

- **European Tour for Class of 2007 Graduates**
  Summer 2007

For details on these trips and others, visit alumni.villanova.edu. Click on Benefits and Services/Travel Opportunities.
Father Donohue Invites a New Generation of Support

BY ABBEY J. PORTER ’08 G.S.

Just prior to his Inauguration on September 8 as the 32nd president of Villanova University, the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S sat down with the Development Office staff to share his thoughts on fundraising at the University, building support among alumni and what to do about a bagpiper with nowhere to practice.

Among Father Donohue’s numerous, important roles as Villanova’s new president is working with the Development Office and with loyal alumni, parents and friends to ensure that the University has the financial backing to remain stable and competitive.

Father Donohue sees his presidency as a time to reach out to a new generation of University supporters and garner the resources to enhance Villanova as a well-rounded, liberal arts institution.

The University’s current fundraising effort, Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova, has now exceeded $225 million, or more than 75 percent of its $300 million goal. “There has been a lot of momentum built up with the campaign up to this point,” Father Donohue noted. By growing the University’s endowment, the campaign will contribute to the availability of resources such as scholarships, which he views as critical to Villanova’s future.

“The most beneficial part of the whole campaign is the growth of the endowment,” Father Donohue said. “It will really enable us to help students who apply to come here, and to stay in a position of attracting talented, gifted, service-oriented students who want to be a part of this experience. It’s getting harder and harder to do that, and it will become even more difficult if we don’t build up the endowment.”
“From the time students walk into Villanova, they’re a part of that community, and they take with them a responsibility to make sure that community continues to prosper.”

—FATHER DONOHUE

As he faces the completion of the current campaign, Father Donohue also keeps a sharp eye focused on positioning the University for future fundraising efforts. He believes it’s important for the “next generation” of volunteer leaders to come forward in support of Villanova.

“It’s time to call more people into the process—younger people—a constituency that might be apt to be active in the next campaign,” Villanova’s new president said. “My expectation is that those people are going to be stepping up to a different place in their life in the next few years, and this is a way of asking them to take a position of leadership in the advancement of the University…. Now it’s their turn to bring the University to new and different levels.”

“A culture of giving back”

Along with fostering the sense of community so often spoken of at Villanova, Father Donohue wants to build a culture of responsibility in which Villanova means more to students than having a great four years and then moving on.

“There has to be a sense of caring for the future of the community and making sure that community experience is felt and understood by other people,” Father Donohue said. “So, from the time students walk into Villanova, they’re a part of that community, and they take with them a responsibility to make sure that community continues to prosper.”

Father Donohue acknowledged that students paying tuition may feel that they are already contributing enough, but he pointed out that they need to give back to the University in other ways as well. “I think there’s a sense that you’re making a big investment in coming here and you’re going to take from that investment,” he said. “But you also have to put something back into the investment in order to help it grow, in order to help it mature.”

Villanova’s new president hopes to nurture among students a “culture of giving back” that encourages them to stay involved with the University through their alumni years. “Giving back” doesn’t have to be financial, Father Donohue believes. Young alumni who are just starting out can give in other ways as well, such as volunteering with the Villanova University Alumni Association or through their local alumni chapter. He hopes to expand alumni activities to offer a greater variety of opportunities for involvement. “I think we have to find events that are going to attract a wider group of people,” he noted.

“I hope that every graduate remains very involved with Villanova,” Father Donohue concluded, “but if they graduated with positive thoughts about their Villanova experience, I’d be happy…. Hopefully, that will lead to a sense that ‘I’m going to stay in touch, I’m going to stay involved, I’m going to stay concerned about the place and maybe down the road, I can be more help to Villanova.’”

A new home for the arts

Father Donohue has made no secret of one of his top priorities for Villanova’s future: an arts and cultural center that includes space for music, dance and theatre practice and performances for students, as well as art studios and exhibits. He believes such resources are sorely needed at the University.

“There are a lot of people here who are very gifted musicians, or very gifted dancers or very gifted painters and theatre people,” Father Donohue said. “They don’t have any place here that we can say to them, ‘Go and explore your imagination, go and create, go and find what you need to find within you, or within the realm of another person. Go experience life through different eyes.’ We have a lot of students who are hungry for that, really want to do that. And our constant response to them is, we just don’t have the space for it, or we don’t have the equipment for it.” He referenced one recent graduate who competed internationally as a bagpiper while at Villanova. The alumnus had composed his own music and had conducted an independent study on the bagpipe. “There was no place that he could practice,” Father Donohue recalled. “He would have to go outside, and people would call and say, ‘Stop that noise!’ ”

Father Donohue believes that Villanova must do more than prepare students to succeed academically. “We say, ‘Here are all the things you need to become an accountant, here are all the things you need to become an engineering major, here are all the things you need for pre-law,’” he said. “But where is the stuff that will help you be more human? Where is the stuff that will help you come in touch with a different side of your soul? Where is the moment that will allow you to express yourself in things other than words? We don’t offer that, and as an institution that prides itself on a liberal arts education, we should.”

Along with assuring space for the performing arts, Villanova’s president would like to see resources dedicated to enhancing Falvey Memorial Library. “We need an intellectual center,” he said. “We don’t have any place where all of the various disciplines can mingle and merge. I think the library has the potential to be such a place.”

For the immediate future, Father Donohue will focus on meeting the $300 million goal of The Campaign for Villanova. He encourages alumni, parents and friends who have not yet lent their support to this historic fundraising effort to pledge that support now. He asks them to consider: “Do you believe in what Villanova stands for? Do you believe in the experience you had here—was it one that moved you?” If so, he urges, “Look into your own heart and say, ‘How can I help?’”
With Transforming Minds and Hearts: The Campaign for Villanova well on its way to reaching its $300 million goal, the success of this historic fundraising effort can be attributed to participation at all levels. Every gift to the campaign counts, for each one strengthens the University in critical ways.

To recognize and celebrate exceptional support from Villanova University’s alumni, parents and friends, Villanova created two prestigious recognition societies: the President’s Club and the President’s Council: Transforming Minds and Hearts.

“Giving back to Villanova in this way signifies confidence and pride in the University,” noted John M. Elizandro, vice president for Institutional Advancement. “The President’s Club and the President’s Council were established to recognize and thank those whose committed involvement and generous contributions help the University to continue to grow, address critical needs and advance its national standing.”

**The President’s Council:**
*Transforming Minds and Hearts*

Gifts of $100,000 or more to the campaign qualify donors for membership in the President’s Council. These gifts are essential to helping the University meet its long-term capital and endowment goals. Thanks to commitments made to the campaign at this level, Villanova is able to work toward achieving its strategic objectives and focus on planning for the future.

**The President’s Club**

Membership in the President’s Club honors participants for their outstanding support of the Annual Fund. By giving to help Villanova respond to immediate needs, members of the President’s Club provide resources to address immediate campus needs, support student programs, and fund academic initiatives.

**Assuring a transformational education**

Members of the University community whose support makes them eligible for membership in the President’s Club or the President’s Council ensure that students have access to a truly transformational education that draws from Augustinian values and incorporates excellent resources.

“Villanova’s alumni, parents and friends who are continuing the University’s great tradition of philanthropy in this way are helping to secure its place among the nation’s top universities,” Elizandro said. “We are truly grateful for their support.”
The President’s Council: Transforming Minds and Hearts

Through the President’s Council: Transforming Minds and Hearts, Villanova University recognizes and honors its distinguished alumni, parents and friends who have made exceptional gifts to The Campaign for Villanova.

The President’s Council was commissioned by the Campaign Steering Committee to acknowledge those individuals who have made commitments of $100,000 or above for capital or endowment purposes. Endowed gifts make a lasting contribution to the University, allowing for the creation of distinguished faculty positions and new learning initiatives, as well as scholarships that recognize and support outstanding students. In addition, capital funds provide Villanova with the resources necessary to continue to enhance campus facilities. Gifts of this magnitude are essential to achieving the University’s strategic objectives and establishing a solid foundation for the future. President’s Council members include:

Frederick Anton and Emily Ryan
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert F. Aspbury
George L. Aulbach
Mrs. Harriet C. Barry

* = Deceased

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel H. Bathon, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Belmont, Jr.
Benjamin D. Bernstein*
Mr. David Bernstein
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Brancatella
Mr. and Mrs. Martin W. Brennan

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Mr. Michael R. Dettra
Mark S., Esq. and Tobey Dichter
Robert K. DiFazio
Mr. Daniel M. DiLella
Jack and Gloria Drozdick
Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Ellinwood
Nicholas J. Ferrara, Jr.

A Strong Family Bond with Villanova

Lisa Martorano Turano '83 VSB and Robert J. Turano, Sr.

Members of the President’s Council: Transforming Minds and Hearts

Villanova University has remained a significant part of the life of Lisa Martorano Turano '83 VSB ever since her freshman year. Her younger brother is also a Villanova graduate, and beginning with their first days on campus, her entire family has been involved in the life of the University. This tradition continues today and now includes her husband, Robert J. Turano, Sr., and their children. For the Turanos, who reside in Cedar Grove, N.J., the Villanova community is part of their extended family.

"With our family and close alumni friends, for years we have attended Homecoming, Alumni Reunion Weekend, Special Olympics and various other functions at the University," Lisa Turano said. "Our children have grown up with Villanova."

In fact, the Turanos’ long history and strong bond with the University are what compelled them to become even more involved through The Campaign for Villanova. With their $100,000 contribution, they have established a fund in the Villanova School of Business—The Lisa Turano ‘83 and Robert Turano, Sr. Department of Accounting Endowed Fund—to help recruit and retain accounting faculty members who are leaders in their fields.

“Each time we return to campus and speak with faculty, staff and students, and interact with fellow alumni, our connection grows even stronger,” Lisa Turano added. “We wanted to make a significant commitment to the campaign to express how much we appreciate the ways the University has enriched our lives and to help others gain from the opportunities of a Villanova experience.”

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, inducted Robert J. Turano, Sr. and Lisa Martorano Turano ‘83 VSB as members of the President’s Council at a special luncheon in New York City. The couple’s $100,000 commitment to The Campaign for Villanova represents their deep appreciation for the positive impact the University has had on their family. Lisa Turano is a CPA, and Robert Turano, also a CPA, is president of RT Associates, Inc.
The President’s Club

To honor donors who make exceptional gifts to the Villanova Annual Fund, Villanova University established The President’s Club. The Annual Fund supports Villanova’s faculty and academic programs, student life activities, strategic initiatives and capital projects. These gifts allow the University to continue to provide scholarships for deserving students, attract and retain superior faculty, and develop the innovative academic programming that is the hallmark of a Villanova education.

Membership in the President’s Club demonstrates a desire and willingness to participate in charting the future of Villanova. The generosity of President’s Club members provides today’s Villanova students with expanded educational opportunities and teaches them the benefits of giving back to the University.

Participation in the President’s Club will help to ensure that Villanova students will receive an educational experience that draws upon the University’s Augustinian heritage and incorporates cutting-edge resources, an education that thoroughly prepares them for successful careers and meaningful lives. One of the rewards of giving to Villanova is the feeling of being part of a legacy and helping to perpetuate the University’s great tradition of philanthropy. President’s Club donors include:

Partners
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Atrakci
Mr. and Mrs. George J. Bacik
Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Baldwin, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. Barry
Thomas D. and Karin Battle
Mr. David Bernstein
James R. and Mary Birle
Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Bohny
Mr. and Mrs. Francis L. Bosco
Greg and Gia Brennan
Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Brennan
Robert J. Brennan

(Continued on page 10)

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

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<tr>
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The President’s Club *(continued)*

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Fall 2006

Connected Closely with Their Alma Mater

Tracy Setlock Brala '90 VSB and Patrick J. Brala '89 VSB view their participation in The President's Club as a way to maintain a lifelong connection and give something back to their alma mater. Patrick Brala is vice president and chief financial officer of AMC Delancey Group, Inc., and Tracy Brala is senior brand manager for the Campbell Soup Company.

The President's Club (Advisors level)

From the first day they stepped foot on campus as undergraduates, Tracy Setlock Brala '90 VSB and Patrick J. Brala '89 VSB were touched by the spirit of Villanova University. The Bralas, who reside in Villanova, Pa., have chosen to be involved and support the University because being members of the Villanova community has been such an important part of their lives ever since.

“The values and friendships that we gained as students, and through our continued involvement with Villanova, have become a central part of our lives,” said Patrick Brala.

“We view maintaining a lifelong connection to Villanova, as well as supporting the Annual Fund and the campaign, as important ways to give back to the place, the community, that has meant so much to us.”

The Bralas say they feel they owe a great deal to Villanova, not only because they met on campus as Orientation counselors, but also because of how the University has shaped and continues to transform their lives.

“We view participating and being involved as more important than how much you give,” noted Tracy Brala. “In fact, we started donating to the University right out of college. At the time, neither of us foresaw that one day we would be a part of the President’s Club.” She added, “Our hope is that all students, parents and alumni will reflect on how their experiences as Villanovans have influenced and impacted their lives, and that they will also find a way to support the campaign.”
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These lists reflect information available as of September 1. Updates are welcome and can be provided by e-mailing theannualfund@villanova.edu or by calling 1-800-486-5244.
By Ellen Giuliano

Dr. Robert M. Giuliano, professor of chemistry at Villanova University, went home from work a bit early on June 16, feeling down, and decided to take a nap before dinner. That Friday marked the eight-month anniversary of the passing of his father, William A. Giuliano, and Sunday would be his first Father’s Day without him.

During Giuliano’s nap, his youngest son, Christopher, burst into the bedroom with the phone to his ear and waved his hand in an attempt to get his father’s attention. Giuliano wasn’t exactly in the mood to hear anything, but Christopher said he must take the call because it was from the Czech Republic. The U.S. soccer team just had a devastating loss to the Czech side in the first round of the World Cup. Thinking someone must be calling to rub it in, he reluctantly took the phone.

The caller identified herself as Veronika Taylor, a teacher living in Prague. She had just found in a shop a set of World War II dog tags that belonged to William A. Giuliano, and she wanted to determine if they were indeed his father’s. Remembering that his father had lost his original tags in Europe, Giuliano pulled out a copy of the military discharge. The numbers on the form were identical to those on the tags. She mentioned that there was a religious medal attached to the tags, similar in description to one that Giuliano remembered his father wearing. She said she would mail the tags to him, and 10 days later they arrived with this handwritten letter:

Dear Robert,

With great happiness and satisfaction in finding, I send you these dog-tags of your father’s. I found these by chance…with an extra hour to spare between classes. The shop was a familiar one that Veruska and Ivana own. They sell items that people bring to them and specialize in china ware, original arts and art deco…as well as linens. Usually I can coax them to bring out their little “treasure” boxes of old stuff that has not been repaired or they have no time or hope for.

Today I did purchase a beautiful art deco vase and a few wedding hankies and while Ivana was adding up the charges (they do not have a cash register machine), I noticed a bowl upon the front desk and began to rummage through it. I had already paid for my purchases… but asked the owner… “how much?” for the dog-tags I had pulled out of the intertwined chain necklaces in this bowl. She drew up the chain onto which these dog-tags were attached and just placed them into my bag as a maly darek (small gift). I noticed later, on the bowl, there was a tag that stated all items cost 45 kcs each…or about $2.00. From the shop I walked a further 5 blocks to bring my accountant some tax papers. He speaks little English, but I managed to ask him for his “lupe” (magnifying glass) and together we tried to see the name and numbers on the tags. His eyes lit up and realized they must be the tags from a U.S. soldier. He collects WWII relics and all, but I refused to bargain and said I would research and return these to their rightful owners.

Thus, I spent the hours of the afternoon cleaning up the tags and searching the Internet for this name, military experience, etc. Luckily… my searches discovered a name, address, and phone—Thank God! The irony is that… while at that shop today… so many people searched through that bowl on that desk and none of them pulled out those tags… in the 2 hrs I was there. I believe strongly that everything in our lives happens for a purpose—be it good or bad luck. This was a lucky day and it was smiling.

To the moon and back… may your family be blessed!

—Veronika Taylor

“I believe strongly that everything in our lives happens for a purpose—be it good or bad luck.”

—Veronika Taylor
Mathematics M.A. Program Celebrates 50 Years of Excellence

BY ELLEN GIULIANO

Villanova University, which for more than a decade has been ranked the No. 1 university in its region in the master's degree category by U.S. News & World Report, this year, celebrates the 50th anniversary of its M.A. program in mathematics.

In the early 1950s, mathematical studies at the University had coalesced into a department of its own, making it very natural to start a master's program. The department of mathematics earlier had begun the M.S. program in applied statistics. Originally, the M.A. was modeled on the first two years of a doctoral program. Since then, it has evolved into a much more flexible program catering to a diverse student body.

Dr. Douglas Norton, associate professor of mathematical sciences and chairman of the department, pointed out that formerly Villanova had offered a third master's degree in the field: the M.A. in the Teaching of Mathematics, intended for high school math teachers who wanted to apply new knowledge in their classrooms. However, as students' interests and the prerequisites began to merge, and as the program's enrollment began to decline, the department combined the teaching master's with the M.A. Today, as part of the general master's program, teachers have the option of pursuing a Certificate of Graduate Study in the Teaching of Secondary School Mathematics. Villanova offers teachers a significant tuition discount.

According to Norton, today's math students are often less certain of the paths they wish to pursue after a bachelor's degree. Through Villanova's five-year combined bachelor/master's program, they may continue to earn a master's degree in applied statistics while figuring out what direction to follow.

Students in the five-year program, as well as those coming in directly from undergraduate studies, are known as "non-traditionals," mainly because it wasn't common for math majors immediately to go into a master's program. These "non-traditionals," Norton said, "are often some of our very good students, and so we need to have some good, challenging courses for them."

Other curricular developments have coincided with changes in the field. For example, while certain mathematical theories have been around for ages, the application of these theories didn't exist for 50 years ago. One of the program's most popular courses now is an application in business-financial mathematics, taught by Dr. Klaus Volpert, associate professor. Norton teaches a course in chaos theory, a term that wasn't introduced into mathematics until the 1970s. The M.A. program also has incorporated the dramatic growth of information technology, because IT plays an especially important role for secondary school teachers. One course offers training in a wide range of software.

Given the diverse student body, the M.A. program serves many roles. First of all, it provides a continuity from undergraduate education. Secondly, it offers additional education for those looking for job advancement or a career change. Dr. David Sprows '62 M.A., professor of mathematical sciences and director of the master's program, explained, "We have quite a few mathematics teachers, and what they want to do is enhance their teaching competence. We have people who want to get the necessary background to teach at a junior or community college. We get people from industry who want to enhance their job skills."

The department has increased the scope of its courses to offer variety while always including the traditional areas of math, a trend that will continue, Sprows said.

For 50 years Villanova has worked to assure excellence in its M.A. in mathematics program. Sprows pointed out that while former competitors eliminated their M.A. programs due to dramatic declines in enrollment, Villanova has seen its program flourish. What specifically is behind the success? According to Sprows, the answer is simple: "The people who teach in the program. We get rave reviews about almost all of them."
The Friar Who Sowed the Seeds of Genetics

BY MAUREEN MCKEW

To present the traveling exhibition, “Gregor Mendel: Planting the Seeds of Genetics,” in Philadelphia in 2008, Villanova University has partnered with the Academy of Natural Sciences.

The Mendel exhibition will be available at only five U.S. venues. It opened on September 15 at the Field Museum in Chicago. It will travel to the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Washington, D.C.; COSI (the Center of Science and Industry) in Columbus, Ohio; the Memphis Museums in Tennessee; and to its final venue, the Academy, in Philadelphia.

A 19th-century Augustinian friar and science teacher in Brno, Austria (now the Czech city of Brno), Mendel designed an experiment of hybridizing ordinary peas that revealed the basic laws of heredity. His work was ignored for 35 years, only to be rediscovered after his death. The observations he made in the Abbey of St. Thomas garden would launch the science of modern genetics.

The name of Villanova’s science building pays tribute to Mendel, and Villanova awarded its first Mendel Medal in 1929 to recognize scientific accomplishment and religious conviction.

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, noted that Mendel has long been “Villanova University’s shining star.” The president added: “While the scientific world has always valued his contribution to the field of genetics, it is my hope that this exhibit will bring many people, particularly young people, in contact with his commitment to research, his scientific discoveries and the Augustinian spirituality that grounded all of his efforts.”

Villanova’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences worked closely with the Academy to sponsor the exhibit in Philadelphia. The College’s dean, the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’69 M.A., noted that Villanova and the College “are proud to partner with the Academy. Mendel has come to be recognized as the father of genetics. Although his work complements that of Darwin’s on evolution, the story of how Mendel came to discover the laws of heredity, and how his work is necessary to an understanding of Darwin’s, are relatively unknown today. This exhibition will help students and scientists alike to understand how Mendel’s discovery opened the door to a new era in genetics.”

The exhibition presents Mendel’s story, his influence and the power of genetics to tell about the natural world. According to the Field Museum, the original manuscripts, photographs and instruments evoke the world of scientists in the 1800s and early 1900s. Also on view are most of the few artifacts that exist from the life of this great scientist, including his microscope and botanical specimens.

The exhibition also highlights today’s pioneering geneticists. Videos and hands-on activities will give everyone a chance to understand the fundamentals of genetics. Visitors will be able to re-create Mendel’s experiment in easy steps, compare the views through microscopes from different eras and use DNA to figure out the flamingo’s place on the bird family tree.

The exhibition’s contemporary art with a genetics theme will “reflect the spirit of curiosity and creativity that inspires scientific research as well as art,” according to the Field Museum. The natural history museum developed the exhibit in partnership with the Vereinigung zur Förderung der Genomforschung in Vienna and the Mendel Museum in Brno.

For a preview, visit: www.fieldmuseum.org/mendel.
Alumni Dedicate Room to Dr. Dougherty ’58 VSB

By Andrew Sheehan ’06 A&S

Villanova School of Business Dean James M. Danko (right) congratulates Dr. Gerald A. Dougherty ’58 VSB during the dedication of a Bartley Hall classroom to the longtime accountancy teacher.

Dougherty commented that he “came to Villanova with less than noble intentions.” After working in public accounting for a few years, he decided to start teaching because of the attractive hours. He became an assistant professor in 1961 and earned an M.B.A. from Temple University in 1968 and a Ph.D. in 1994 from Arizona State University. At Villanova, he served as assistant dean of the College of Commerce and Finance (now Villanova School of Business) from 1969 to 1976 and 1977 to 1979, as well as acting dean from 1976 to 1977.

Dougherty recalled those early days at Villanova. Hardened by the business world, he enjoyed the comparatively light schedule of teaching, and when a student once thanked him for his class, he dismissed it as an anomaly. Over the years, as more students thanked him, he found his reasons for teaching began to change. He spoke of the psychic income that comes with the teaching profession. He described how imparting knowledge to eager students is very rewarding. “I took teaching seriously, and I never regretted one day of it,” Dougherty said. “I just came to work every day and did my job. The rewards have been tremendous over all these years.”

Andrew Sheehan ’06 A&S, who is majoring in English, is an intern in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs. He will graduate in December and looks forward to a career in public relations.

Musings on Music in the Stadium

The Philadelphia Orchestra provided a brilliant backdrop for reflecting on how and why music can and will save the world.

By Oscar Abello ’08 A&S

Against the backdrop of boxy Jake Nevin Field House and the gently sloping Pavilion, the audience sprawled across the football field turf. Following a picnic beneath a backstage tent to help support the concerts, the world-renowned orchestra took to the stage to perform at Villanova for the first time in 30 years. Through the generosity of Wachovia, with support from Villanova and the National Endowment for the Arts, the orchestra kicked off its week-long series of free summer neighborhood concerts.

Under the direction of associate conductor Rosen Milanov, the concert began with the “Festive Overture” by Shostakovich, followed by the two Polovtsian dance movements from “Prince Igor,” Borodin’s opera. Dvorak’s “Carnival Overture” came next, then Beethoven’s “Egmont Overture.” Stravinsky rounded out the bill with “The Firebird Suite” (1919). Sousa’s “The Stars and Stripes Forever” brought a rousing end to the evening before sending the crowd off singing two verses of “America the Beautiful,” the lyrics for which were printed in the program. The orchestra actually ran out of programs, not anticipating so many neighbors.

Oscar Abello ’08 A&S is double-majoring in economics and theology with minors in Peace and Justice Education and Africana Studies. He began his internship in the Office of Communication and Public Affairs last summer as part of his aspiration for a journalism career. He looks forward to graduate school in economics but also wants to keep his options open, including for volunteering.
In honor of Benjamin Franklin’s 300th birthday, Villanova University participated in “Kites: Art Takes Flight,” a summer outdoor art exhibit organized by the Main Line Art Center in Haverford, Pa. The exhibit featured 40 sculptures, each up to 12 feet tall, displayed in public places in Main Line communities. Twenty-one of them were visible near or on Lancaster Avenue.

The kite sculpture at Villanova, at Lancaster Avenue between Stone Hall and the Technologies Services Building, was titled “Burnished Light.” Its creator was Susan Kelly vonMedicus, a graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. B101 radio station sponsored her sculpture. Her icons and book illuminations were featured in the Villanova University Art Gallery’s 2001 exhibit “Letters from Heaven.”

Kevin O’Donnell, who as superintendent of grounds helped find an appropriate location for her sculpture, said, “I think it’s wonderful that the University is working with the community to bring a new dimension to our relationship with Radnor Township.”

The kite sculpture exhibit, which follows the 2002 “Art Unleashed” dog sculptures, is part of the Main Line Art Center’s mission to “make art accessible to the community.” The kites also showcased the work of local artists, according to Kathy Howell, president of Howell Partners LLC, who helped bring “Burnished Light” to campus.

The project’s inspiration came from Judy Herman, director of the Main Line Art Center. “I saw a kite flying in the skies over this community and I was looking for an idea for our next public art project, and I thought that would be a wonderful way to get artists to be creative. It’s also Benjamin Franklin’s Tercentennial, and we decided that it would just be a great contribution to that.”

Once the kite theme was selected, the art center sent out a call for regional artists to submit proposals. Mary Salvante, project manager, said “Some of the artists picked out theirs specifically on kites. Some did things that were more Ben Franklin-centric. Some of them combined the two.”

The sculptures were displayed through mid-October, and then were auctioned off to help fund the art center’s education program. The vonMedicus sculpture sustained some damage in September and was not auctioned.

Salante noted, “We have our core users of the art center, but these public art projects are a way for us to interact with people that aren’t necessarily involved with the art center in a direct way.” Herman added that, in addition to raising awareness for the art center, the hope was that the project would give the community “a sense of the vitality of art, and a boost—individuals smiling as they ride by or taking one of the maps and spending the summer looking for all the kites. When we did the dogs, people came to me with picture albums where their kids are standing in front of every dog.” She could envision the joyful art experience of how families would “go out and find all the kites and document them.”

For more information, visit: www.mainlineart.org.
Forward-driven, Around the World

From Nevada to Villanova to China, Ryan D. Costella ’04 A&S has kept a few steps ahead, always conscious of what it means to be a responsible citizen.

BY OSCAR ABELLO ’08 A&S

July 26, 2005

We went on a camping trip to an unrestored part of the Great Wall where there are hardly any people and definitely no tourists. The views were spectacular. The pictures don’t do it justice at all.... We got caught in a thunder and hailstorm and got pictures of a rainbow arcing over the wall. It was fantastic.

Our climb was literally vertical in some spots. Our noses could touch the stone path because it was so steep. We eventually reached the summit and set up camp. While hanging out and just taking in the majestic scenery surrounding us on the mountain, we had several visitors, including one crazy man whose English name is Beer and two government-like people who came up the wall at 11 at night and took 200 yuan and my cellular phone...needless to say, we got out of the experience safely, and we had the most amazing camping trip of our lives. It was overwhelming sitting on top one of man’s greatest accomplishments, albeit a terrible sacrifice of human life and resources.

All entries are from the online travel journal of Ryan D. Costella ’04 A&S (www53.homepage.villanova.edu/ryan.costella).

A majestic rainbow over the Great Wall of China seems perfect to slow life down to one long and beautiful moment. In a country that is climbing swiftly up the rungs of the global ladder, such slow moments are more common than you might think. Lamb kebobs and all, China was a powerful experience for Ryan D. Costella ’04 A&S, who lived there for eight months as part of his graduate work in England.

A Rhodes Scholar finalist while at Villanova University, Costella was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in China but turned it down to accept an NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship to study at Cambridge University. This fall, he earned a master’s degree in Chinese Studies at Cambridge’s Wolfson College.

At Villanova, Costella earned undergraduate degrees in political science and English, with an Honors concentration and a minor in Chinese. He graduated magna cum laude. A member of the varsity swim team for all four years, he was team captain as a junior and senior, and served as a member of the NCAA certification committee. The eldest of six children from a Nevada family, he has a brother, Kiel, who is a junior at Villanova. They share interests in competitive swimming, political science and China.

Noted Vincent Nicastro, Villanova’s director of Athletics, “Ryan participated in a grueling sport, in virtual anonymity, and without athletic scholarship support, and was one of the most outstanding student-athletes I have encountered at Villanova.” Added Nicastro, Costella is “exceedingly bright, committed, mature and with a focus on helping others.”

Costella’s focus on helping others brought him to Campus Ministry’s Discipleship Council. Working with Kathy Overturf, associate director of Campus Ministry, Costella was instrumental in establishing Villanova’s World Religions Day. This annual event is intended to spark discussion and reflection, as well as the need for a deeper understanding of the world’s myriad religious traditions following the attacks of September 11, 2001.

“What I remember most about Ryan,” recalled Dr. Helen K. Lafferty, University vice president, “was that he was always forward-driven, always looking to make a difference and not just merely be present in the work he does and places he goes. It’s hard not to imagine him being a leader, an educator in his own way, in the admittedly slow march toward a better world.”

When Costella moved on to Cambridge, Villanova’s influence weighed heavily on his principles. He noted, “I have to say that in comparison to some of the other students from more well-known colleges, Villanova students are just more well-rounded and driven than the others, and it was painfully obvious once I was at Cambridge.” His time there proved his point. Costella became the graduate student representative on the Faculty of Oriental Studies Board, the Chinese Studies representative to the Faculty of Oriental Studies and Wolfson’s secretary of the world-famous Cambridge University Debate Union. He also coached swimming for the Cambridge Triathlon Club.

After seven months of “mastering Mandarin and receiving an introduction to the Chinese economy,” Costella wrote, he traveled with his Cambridge classmates...
April 2005

I am finally settled in Beijing.... What an awesome country this is. China has been fantastic so far. It’s so different than anything I could have imagined. No one speaks English here, and I have been forced to adapt and speak Mandarin, which is great. My studying is finally being put to the test. Seeing that I have yet to get lost or put in jail, I’d say my Chinese is improving quite well. The food is great. I’ve yet to encounter anything I didn’t like. My chopstick skills were a bit rusty at first [but now] I can actually pick up a noodle and get it to my mouth without it taking a detour on the table or floor. Beijing University is beautiful. The grounds are very well kept and it is blooming all over the place.... The most interesting aspect of China I’ve noticed this month is the stark contrast between the elite “city folk” who are usually born here and have decent jobs and those who come in from the rural areas.... Regardless of the economic condition of the people, though, I’ve encountered so much friendliness and genuine hospitality.

September 17, 2005

Today marks the Chinese Moon Festival. We celebrated last night by meeting our landlady and co. for some delicious food, family style. Reminded me a lot of our dinners back in Nevada. The whole family around the table, having 45 different conversations, enjoying good food, laughs and the relaxing day. The weather was spectacular. Not a cloud in the sky. As night came, the moon beamed brightly and was so clear. After dinner we went outside and looked at it for a while. It was really beautiful. The tradition in China is to spend some time in pensive thought looking at the moon, hoping that someone else in the world whom you really miss is also looking at it—and that way you can share the same moment with that person, even if you’re far away. It’s a really neat concept and fits in well with a society where so many people are forced to leave the countryside and work in the cities. This night gives them the chance to connect with each other, even if only by looking into the sky.
Their perceptions generally weren’t as negative as one might expect coming from a Western culture.

“Farmers will go to the cities because they can make more money,” Costella noted. “Whether that’s a better life or not, I’m not really sure we can be quick to judge. They might have been living in a small village with very little material goods, but they lived with their families and in a cleaner environment than in the cities, where they usually live far from their families,” he said.

“I know a maid who just lives and works and sends money back to her family in the countryside. Many live in caves and fish in dirty rivers that might also be their only source of water. To me, that’s poverty, but that’s from my American perspective, and they seem to be fine with what they have.”

His second project involved a survey of people in Beijing at various income levels. His questions were quite often sensitive, and risky to answer. “One of the questions was, On a scale of one to 10, how likely are you to revolt against the government?” Costella said. He surveyed 1,000 Chinese “on the street,” and no one was harmed, though he did encounter two government officials who raised their eyebrows regarding the survey. In December 2005, he returned to Cambridge to complete his dissertation.

Ultimately, Costella said, China proved to be an incredible period of reflection for him. He returned to America with a heightened awareness of what sets this country apart from others and what will bring it down if nothing is done to maintain its greatness. Much of the reflection was based on reading Alexis de Tocqueville’s Democracy in America, which led Costella to believe that to help prevent an impending collapse of culture, he needed to take action. So he founded a nonprofit organization in Nevada, Youth Voice, Inc., which launched this fall.

The idea came from an experience during Costella’s senior year of high school in his hometown of Carson City. When he realized that students were no longer saying the Pledge of Allegiance and that there were no American flags in the classrooms, he asked the administration, “Why not?” The dean of students purchased flags for every classroom, and Costella led the school every morning in pledging allegiance.

“It was at that point I realized that even one person speaking up can make a difference and change something,” Costella said. “I did my senior project on civic involvement amongst youth, focusing on how to educate young adults on the differences between voting for one party or another, and why voting was important.”

The primary mission of Youth Voice is to encourage civic involvement among young people through educational activities and programming. High school outreach, candidate debates and other initiatives are in the beginning stages, in cooperation with the Carson City School Board. This fall, Youth Voice organized a commercial-free televised debate for the Nevada gubernatorial race. Not surprisingly, the Youth Voice bylaws state that all members of its board of directors must be under 25 years of age to ensure that the organization is a voice for youth and to youth about the responsibilities of being a citizen in this country—or any democracy for that matter.
Red Cloud’s Silver Lining

At a Native American school, Stephanie Storer ‘03 C.E. is committed to giving others the opportunities they deserve.

BY LAUREN HUMANN ’06 A&S

Perhaps two of the most frequent questions posed to an undergraduate are “What is your major?” and “What are you going to do with that?” When Stephanie (Pilipovich) Storer ‘03 C.E. began her freshman classes in Villanova University’s College of Engineering, she may never have imagined that the skills she gleaned would thrive on a Native American reservation in South Dakota’s Badlands.

Storer, who is from Greensburg, a suburb of Pittsburgh, had lived in Pennsylvania all of her life. During her senior year at Villanova, the civil engineering major applied for several engineering positions, not satisfied that she had found the right match. She recalls, “I felt like I wanted to volunteer so that I could share my experiences and my education with people in need.” That February, at a volunteer fair, she encountered the program that would provide her with a home and happiness for three years—and counting!

It was Red Cloud Indian School that caught Storer’s eye and her desire to give of herself, and so began her journey on Pine Cloud Reservation. The 5,000-square-mile reservation is about the size of Connecticut. Red Cloud, where Storer has built her life and more recently her marriage, operates two elementary schools, a middle school and a high school, plus a heritage center and parishes across the reservation. The Jesuits and the Lakota People jointly run this Catholic school. The students learn academic subjects and Catholic spirituality, as well as the Lakota culture, language and spirituality. As she notes, however, Red Cloud is much more than a school.

Red Cloud had its origins in 1888, when Chief Red Cloud, drawing on his experiences in Washington D.C., asked the Jesuits to start a school on his Sioux reservation. Today, incredibly, Red Cloud thrives in the face of much adversity. On the reservation, there are debilitating problems at every turn. The rates of unemployment and alcoholism are between 75 and 85 per cent. The suicide rate is much higher in proportion to the rest of America, and the retention rate in the schools is lower. Of its 600 students, 69 percent live in poverty. Storer reflects, “It’s a place of staggering statistics, yet it is very much a place of strength and hope, where the people have endured incredibly.”

To Storer, Red Cloud shines brightly on the reservation, and is very much emblematic of what may happen when love, time and generosity are of the utmost importance. The high school now averages 90-95 per cent college enrollment for its graduates, a wonder when one looks at other reservation schools, or truly any school that deals with at-risk youth. It seems this very special place, so stunning in its defiance of the status quo, can only improve.

Red Cloud school, even in its accomplishments, still struggles to make ends meet; private support accounts for more than 90 percent of its budget since it receives no significant funds from federal, state or tribal sources. Storer works in the administrative department, brainstorming on how to communicate Red Cloud’s mission to donors. Her role is that of problem solver—a role familiar from her undergraduate years. It is up to the tireless workers in her office to garner the $10 million annually that will allow Red Cloud’s mission to stay afloat.

The school is changing lives every day, thanks especially to people like Storer who have committed their lives to giving others the opportunities they deserve. Storer, however, will in no way take credit for the school’s success; instead, she strives to make Red Cloud an even better place. It is no longer a volunteer program that keeps her there—it is her commitment to making a daily difference in the lives of others.

Thanks to Villanovans like Storer, the mission of the Augustinians is very much alive in the 21st century.

Lauren Humann ’06 A&S, who majored in history and minored in French, interned in Villanova University’s Office of Communication and Public Affairs. She is now employed in the Philadelphia office of Tierney Communications.
Ever since she returned to her hometown of New York City in 2004, Linda Krebs '04 A&S has been causing major waves in the public relations field. At age 22, this Villanova University alumna has rocketed along the fast track with an impressive collection of accomplishments after only two years in the field. She has taken home a major award, been elected to the board of directors of New York Women in Communications Inc. (NYWICI) and is heading a prestigious project for the New York chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA-NY).

Judging from her time at Villanova, it quickly becomes apparent that Krebs’ success is the result of hard work and rapid personal growth. She graduated in only three years by placing out of two semesters of both chemistry and Spanish. How she managed to do this would turn out to be indicative of her drive to “make the most of every opportunity you are given,” as she put it. Because of difficulties transferring her credits in Spanish and chemistry, she had to pass exams given by Villanova in both subjects. So one year after she had taken the classes at St. Joseph by the Sea High School on Staten Island, N.Y., she hunkered down over the summer and crammed, then passed both tests with flying colors.

With her bachelor’s degree in hand, Krebs knew she wanted to get into the communications field. She explains: “At Villanova, I was a communication major, and while I am enamored with different areas within the field, I felt that public relations allowed me to use a number of different skill sets.” What really enables her to shine, she said, is that “[I’ve always been the type to push ahead and look for a new challenge.” She confessed that “I probably wouldn’t be happy unless I had a million things to juggle.”

While at Villanova, for example, she volunteered to help with communicating about the Philadelphia Flower Show and the opening of the National Constitution Center. She also held a campus job as office assistant in the philosophy department.

Upon graduation, Krebs quickly made the most of another rare opportunity. As a student, one of her internships was at Publicis Dialog. When her boss there, Lucy Siegel, founded a new public relations agency in 2004 (Bridge Global Strategies in New York City), Siegel invited Krebs to join the founding staff. Krebs jumped at the chance and threw herself into a number of projects for this mid-size firm with an international focus.

In July, Krebs became a senior account executive for G.S. Schwartz & Co., a leading mid-sized public relations/investor relations agency in Manhattan, with national and international clients.

One recent accolade for Krebs was the 2006 President’s Award from PRSA-NY, which in June rewarded one of her most ambitious projects. The project began last year, when she was invited to make a presentation to the PRSA-NY board on the growing national trend of young professionals leaving—or never even joining—large professional associations. After assembling a committee of her peers, she quickly got to the root of the problem: Associations simply were not catering to the needs of young, relatively unestablished professionals.

PRSA-NY then charged Krebs with rectifying the situation inside its own organization. She started instituting workshops and social events aimed at helping these young professionals forge new contacts and hone their skills.

Another recognition recently came in: her induction as the co-vice-president of student affairs for NYWICI, as well as her seat as the youngest member ever on its board of directors. Her role with student affairs enables her to help future women communications professionals in a significant way: “Since I am out of school for only two years, I am surprised that the students look up to me with so much regard, and how much insight I have to help them. They feel it’s much easier to relate to me than someone who has 20-to-30 years in the industry,” she explained. The headline about Krebs in the nywiciNEXT newsletter captured one of one reasons why: “Wise Beyond Her Years.”

Faster Than a New York Sound Bite

After graduating in three years, Linda Krebs ’04 A&S has quickly created her own brand of success in a top PR market.

BY ANDREW SHEEHAN ’06 A&S

E ver since she returned to her hometown of New York City in 2004, Linda Krebs ’04 A&S has been causing major waves in the public relations field. At age 22, this Villanova University alumna has rocketed along the fast track with an impressive collection of accomplishments after only two years in the field. She has taken home a major award, been elected to the board of directors of New York Women in Communications Inc. (NYWICI) and is heading a prestigious project for the New York chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA-NY).

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Andrew Sheehan ’06 A&S majored in English with a concentration in Irish Studies.

“I probably wouldn’t be happy unless I had a million things to juggle.” —Linda Krebs ’04 A&S
An Answer in Action

Feeling overwhelmed, Patricia C. Gallagher ’75 A&S decided we need more than one angel—in times of despair, we need a team of them.

BY OSCAR ABELLO ’08 A&S

Patricia “Trish” C. Gallagher ’75 A&S was driving through Delaware and pulled up to pay a toll. She was pleasantly surprised to find the driver in front of her wanted to say thanks and had paid her toll as well. An angel, it seemed, had come down from on high and decided to help someone out. Gallagher knows a lot about angels, and about helping people in her unique way.

Born Patricia Mohan, after growing up in King of Prussia, Pa., she graduated from Villanova University in 1975 with a degree in education. Next came an M.B.A. degree from Saint Joseph’s University, followed by a career as a consultant and instructor for several local businesses. She has hosted a local talk radio show; authored six children’s books; is a mother of four children, ages 16 to 23; and is a member of a parish in Royersford, Pa.

Last summer, Gallagher drove around the eastern United States in her van decorated with angels, bringing comfort to military bases, churches, hospitals, children’s homes and places of more suffering than usual, among them Sago, W.Va., and the battered Gulf Coast. She carries little with her except what she herself has felt, experienced and reflected upon in her life.

Her journey began after selling her house. She used the money to print a poem on bookmarks, and then placed on the bookmarks a handmade pin featuring three angels. She passed them out to friends, and instructed them to pass them along when they find someone who needed the angels more than they did.

Since then, there have been many more poems. Those poems come from her heart, and those angels from a dream. Amid some of her own tough times, including a daughter’s car accident, illness and a few self-admitted mistakes of her own, Gallagher separated from her husband after 25 years. That set off a year of reflection, and she doubted her life would ever be the same again. She could not have been more right.

Gallagher dealt with her troubles by writing poems, almost one a day for a whole year. On one of those nights, a dream found her asking God that an angel be sent to help her. She quickly took that request back, and instead asked that a team of angels be sent, because one might not be enough. In the very next moment, she began wondering how many other people across the country might share similar sentiments. Thus began her Pass It Along Team of Angels Project.

“I guess you could say it’s a mid-life crisis of sorts,” Gallagher said. She has appeared on television and has been interviewed by national newspapers and magazines. She has been a guest on “The Oprah Winfrey Show” three times, and has appeared with Bryant Gumbel on CBS-TV.

Her project became an ideal experiment in our shared humanity, growing from one woman’s poetic expression of grief that so perfectly echoed grief felt nationwide and even worldwide. The bookmarks, each accompanied by a team of angels pin, reached 78,500 people within a year. Gallagher received 30,000 letters in response. The letters come from, among many others, cancer patients, mothers of lost children, soldiers and their loved ones, police and firefighters’ families, and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Last summer, during her Angels Along the Way Goodwill Tour, Gallagher drove her specially decorated van and distributed 50,000 more teams of angels as her way of helping people deal with tragedy. When invited, she makes a presentation titled “Tea, Talk and a Team of Angels,” in which she tells her story and some of the stories she has received by mail. As the many letters attest, the poems and even Gallagher herself, who seems a sort of one-person traveling ministry, strike an eerily harmonious chord in a world increasingly lost in discord. As bullets and rockets rained in the Middle East, angels rained here and also overseas, where many of her pins could be found after friends and family members passed them along to soldiers.

So many military people wrote back, in fact, that last summer Gallagher had printed a poem specifically for them, to help with what their letters cited as shared yearnings—a reminder of who or what they are fighting for and a touch of home. They wear the angels pins on their uniforms.

The letters commonly also ask for more teams of angels, not because she hands out most of them for free but because she requests that they be passed along. It is strong quantitative evidence of people’s caring for one another and their presence in one another’s thoughts, especially during times of despair.

When someone unknown to Gallagher sent an angels pin to a death row inmate, not realizing a sharp pin wouldn’t be allowed in a prison, the mail was rejected. The inmate then requested the bookmarks alone to share with friends in difficult times—friends even in prison, one might imagine.

There is seemingly no place the teams of angels cannot reach. You can find more stories and letters, and order quantities of the pins and bookmarks online, at www.teamofangelshelpme.com.
Inauguration

highlighting the inaugural events for father donohue were a symposium, the installation of the new president and a day of volunteering.

by maureen mckew

the inauguration of a university president should be a balance between jubilation and solemnity, with a place for laughter and tears and for honoring tradition, and yet looking to the future. above all, it should be an event in which an entire community can take part and remember for the rest of their lives.

the inauguration of the rev. peter morgan donohue, o.s.a., ’75 a&s as the 32nd president of villanova university was just that kind of event. it was filled with moments of high drama and great laughter and, at his wish, reflective of every group connected with the life of the university. this inclusiveness was evident in villanova’s own beginnings in 1842, when it opened its doors to provide an education for the sons of unwanted and excluded irish immigrants.

the inauguration theme, “veritas, unitas, caritas” (truth, unity, love), which also is the motto of the university, spanned the inauguration week, september 6-10.
Veritas in Action

Truth opened the celebration on Thursday afternoon, September 7, with “Veritas in Action: A Symposium on the Responsibilities of the Catholic University in the 21st Century.” The symposium, which took place in the Villanova Room of the Connelly Center, was part of “The Dialogue Between Faith and Culture,” a series of conferences and symposia held during the Fall Semester to honor Father Donohue’s Inauguration.

The symposium’s principal speaker was the Rev. J. Bryan Hehir, Th.D., the Parker Gilbert Montgomery Professor of the Practice of Religion and Public Life at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. For the Archdiocese of Boston, Father Hehir serves as the secretary for Social Services and the president of Catholic Charities.

The two responders from Villanova were the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’69 M.A., dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Sally J. Scholz, associate professor of philosophy.

Father Hehir reflected on the place of the Catholic universities in the life of the Church, stating that they are grounded in the Church’s broader pastoral ministry. “Yet,” he said, “Catholic universities must be differentiated from some aspects of that pastoral ministry because they have a specific function that extends the Church’s ministry in a unique way. Universities belong within the Church, and universities extend outside the Church. They serve as a kind of bridge between the life of the Church and the life of the wider society in which it lives.”

Speaking specifically of American Catholic universities and colleges—there are 238 of them—he noted that over the past 50 years, these institutions have been in a process of profound change. Once they existed for Catholics, were run by Catholics and were supported through Catholic generosity. Now under what Father Hehir described as a double dynamic of invitation from the rest of society and the Church’s own sense that it is to be the servant of humanity, American Catholic higher education has moved out into the wider community. The education of Catholics is still its primary but not exclusive role.

Father Hehir noted that the Catholic identity issue has been much debated since the promulgation in 1990 of Ex Corde Ecclesiae (From the Heart of the Church), the apostolic constitution of Pope John Paul II. The eminent Harvard theologian said that this debate about identity is usually about ideas: ideas about authority and freedom.

“Identity and pluralism is a mainstay of the discussion of the location of the Catholic institutions of higher learning,” said Father Hehir, who placed them “at the intersection of the Church and society.” He added, “This location has led to specific challenges that arise from both the Church and society. The teaching ministry of the Church as a whole is the bond between the Church and Catholic universities. Both teach but in different fashions. The university is not primarily about catechesis and catechetical instruction. It must enter a broader, wider cultivation of wisdom than catechesis engages.”

However, as a challenge, the Church also imparts to the university the tradition that is the product of Catholic teaching, and asks the university to preserve this tradition, develop it and share it, Father Hehir said. And yet, as the American Jesuit John Courtney Murray pointed out, a tradition, in order to live, must have a growing edge. The Catholic university is a uniquely important place for that edge to be tested. The three categories of that tradition, whose relationship Father Hehir likened to Russian nesting dolls, are the intellectual tradition, the moral tradition and the social tradition.

If Catholic universities wish to illustrate the strength of their tradition in American society, Father Hehir suggested that they must engage the issues of the time: war, peace, globalization and fragmentation.

As an institution that is the product of an ancient institution, a Catholic university should stand for certain things. “It must allow pluralism within its community, for not everyone sees these issues the same way,” Father Hehir said. “But it should not be fundamentally ambivalent about major moral questions.”

Catholic universities are not just places where people think, but also places where people, particularly students, live. “Any university is a community,” Father Hehir said. “Catholic universities should be specific kinds of communities. It is this that all Catholic institutions of higher education face, and I think you are in good hands, as you face it here at Villanova.”

In response to the Harvard theologian’s address, Father Ellis suggested that one of the ways Catholic universities could illustrate their strength in American society was to engage other cultures, in particular Arab-Islamic cultures. In her response, Dr. Scholz described the many ways that Villanova specifically addresses challenge, most notably by proactively seeking to be a more diverse community.
Very appropriately, the Inauguration began with a gathering of the Villanova community for the Liturgy of the Eucharist, which was celebrated in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church and simulcast at the Connelly Center. Father Donohue’s family members and his Augustinian brothers—from the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, from around the country and from around the world—joined an overflow crowd of well-wishers as he presided. The Villanova pastoral singers under the direction of Donald A. Giannella provided the music, and members of the University family served as liturgical ministers.

Then came time for the Inauguration ceremony, which took place in the Pavilion. Members of Villanova’s NROTC, for which Father Donohue has served as chaplain, carried in the colors, and a procession of Villanovans, including the longest-serving employee, Kathryn “Kitty” Fagarty, who has worked in Dining Services for 49 years, filed in. They were joined by representatives of more than 100 other colleges and universities, and by Cardinal Justin Rigali, J.C.D., Archbishop of Philadelphia, who offered the invocation.

Dr. Crystal Lucky, director of Villanova’s Africana Studies Program, emceed the ceremony.

Father Donohue accepted salutes from Richard J. Santagati, president of Merrimack College in Andover, Mass., representing Augustinian higher education worldwide; from Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., president of La Salle University in Philadelphia, representing Catholic higher education; and from Dr. Amy Gutmann, president of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, representing American higher education.

The new president received the presidential seal, the symbol of his office, from John G. Drosdick ’65 Ch.E., chair of Villanova’s Board of Trustees, assisted by the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., ’58, who retired as University president on May 31 and has been named president emeritus. Representatives of the student body, parents and the Villanova University Alumni Association presented to Father Donohue volumes of the writings of St. Augustine of Hippo, whose life and works are at the heart of the University’s mission.

Finally, the moment arrived, the moment for which everyone had been waiting since Father’s election last December: his inaugural speech. He cited the second story of creation from the Book of Genesis as a way to focus on the world and on the University’s mission. In this version of creation, the moment arrived, the moment for which everyone had been waiting since Father’s election last December: his inaugural speech. He cited the second story of creation from the Book of Genesis as a way to focus on the world and on the University’s mission. In this version of creation,
God is portrayed as potter molding the human body from clay. “We continue God’s creation by the way we shape and mold one another,” Father Donohue stated. “Education is that breath of life that enables us to discover our potential and move in new directions. During this moment in Villanova’s history, we must evaluate how we mold and frame this community. How do we fashion each other as we take our place in a global community? The Augustinian principles of Veritas, Unitas and Caritas are the tenets of our creation and the central theme of this Inauguration.”

These are the foundations of what it means to be Villanovans, Father Donohue went on to state. They also are the central images that Augustine found in Scripture and that became the agenda of his life and work. “They are the foundation upon which the Irish friars formed Villanova,” he said. “They are the ideals that continue to challenge us today, and they are the values that will propel us into the future. Every decision we make must be framed within these values.” (See page 29 for his full address.)

The Very Rev. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., ’71 A&S, D. Min., Prior Provincial of the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, blessed Villanova’s newly inaugurated president. Then, with the cheers of the community, the sweet music of the “Alma Mater” and Dr. Lucky’s serenade of “Amazing Grace” ringing in his ears, Father Donohue led his University community from the Pavilion to the huge Dinner and Festival Celebration on Mendel Field. They proceeded not with a blaze of triumphant fanfare but rather to the skirl of the bagpipe. Surely the shades of those first Villanovans were enjoying that!

Caritas
A Day of Service

The newly installed president lost no time in applying the third theme of Villanova’s motto to the greater good in the Greater Philadelphia area. Early Saturday morning, he blessed the more than 1,200 Villanova volunteers before they departed for the Community Day of Service that he had envisioned as an integral part of his Inauguration (see page 40). Then Father Donohue set off to do his own part in serving these communities—with hard hat, hammer and heart.
THE REV. PETER M. DONOHUE, O.S.A., ’75 A&S

delivered his Inauguration Address in the Pavilion on September 8.
Among those whom Father Donohue thanked were the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin,
O.S.A., ’58 A&S, president emeritus of Villanova University, and
Richard J. Santagati, president of Merrimack College, represented
Augustinian educational institutional institutions worldwide; Brother Michael J.
McGinniss, F.S.C., Ph.D., president of La Salle University, represented
Catholic institutions of higher education; and Dr. Amy Gutmann,
president of the University of Pennsylvania, represented American
colleges and universities. John G. Drosdick ’65 Ch.E., who chairs
Villanova University’s Board of Trustees, officially installed
Father Donohue as president.
For the past 14 years, my life has been in the theater. In many ways, this doesn’t seem too different, and so, I would like to welcome you to my production of A “Late” Summer’s Night Dream.

There are many people who have journeyed here to celebrate with us, and I would like to take a few moments to acknowledge them. This may not follow protocol, but first and foremost, I want to thank the man who passed the University medallion to me. Father Dobbin, you have provided Villanova with 18 years of outstanding leadership. Your accomplishments are too numerous to name, but know that this community is grateful for all you have done. You will hold a special place in Villanova’s history.

On a personal level, Ed, thank you for your guidance and commitment to making this transition a rewarding and positive experience for me. I know I can always call upon your knowledge and expertise as president emeritus of the University. Father Dobbin, your presidency has transformed many minds and hearts. On behalf of the Villanova community, thank you!

Now back to protocol: Cardinal Rigali, thank you for being with us today. Since 1796 the Augustinians have been a part of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. As you meet the challenges of leading this Catholic community, Villanova will continue to play a vital role in the Catholic educational ministry of the archdiocese.

To the presidents and representatives from other institutions, welcome to Villanova. While on some levels we compete with one another, your presence here today is a testament to our shared educational mission, and as you have supported us, we pledge our support to you. I want to give special thanks to presidents Santagati, McGinnis and Gutmann for being here today.

I want to thank Jack Drosdick and the Board of Trustees for the trust they have placed in me. I look forward to working with you to build Villanova into an even more prominent institution of higher education.

My Augustinian brothers, you are my friends and my second family. Villanova holds a special place in our history. Many friars have served the University and made countless sacrifices to keep it viable. Our numbers are smaller but our spirit is strong. I am humbled to be the 32nd friar to occupy this position. I promise I will uphold our legacy, and I ask for your help to keep me on track.

While I cannot see all of you, there are many friends, former students and alumni here and in cyberspace. You have invited me to marry you, baptize your children and bury your family members. You have given me a very special place in your lives, and you hold a special place in my heart.

To my faculty colleagues (or should I say former colleagues) and the members of the staff, I have become a better priest, teacher and administrator through your commitment, support and challenge. I ask that you continue to do the same for me as the University’s president.

A special thanks to the theatre department: I will miss all of you, the craziness and your inspiration.

To the students, I am a testament to what a Villanova education can do for you.

To my family, thank you for being here. While the clan rarely gets together, I am grateful that you made the effort to come. I want to give a special thanks to my Uncle Pat and Aunt Eileen. Over the years, you have been a wonderful source of support, and I thank you for making me a part of your family.

And a special thanks to my brother Michael and my sister Patti—my older brother and sister. My interest in theater comes from Michael, and my desire to be a teacher comes from Patti. Our other sister, Denise, passed away in 1995. She
God digs into the earth, and the body out of clay. The artist tried as a potter who molds nomadic people, God is portrayed as magicians, I ask that we embrace the second story of Creation. untouchable. Rather than think of ourselves as all-powerful wizards invincible and supreme. But, we also run the risk of becoming way to see ourselves. Like the Creator, we can be all-powerful, who experienced their God as a majestic presence. This is a thrilling and woman. It is the well-known version of Creation from a people on the sixth day, crowns his achievement with the creation of man primordial chaos. God begins by creating the smallest creatures and, and there was light. God saw how good the light was. God then separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. Thus evening came and morning followed the first day. [Genesis I: 1-5]

The book of Genesis opens with a dramatic and ominous scene that rivals any Hollywood movie. A formless wasteland, a mighty wind and a booming voice establishes universal order out of primordial chaos. God begins by creating the smallest creatures and, on the sixth day, crowns his achievement with the creation of man and woman. It is the well-known version of Creation from a people who experienced their God as a majestic presence. This is a thrilling way to see ourselves. Like the Creator, we can be all-powerful, invincible and supreme. But, we also run the risk of becoming untouchable. Rather than think of ourselves as all-powerful wizards or magicians, I ask that we embrace the second story of Creation.

At the time when the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, while as yet there was no field shrub on earth and no grass on the field had sprouted, for the Lord God had sent no rain upon the earth, and there was no man to till the soil, but a stream was welling up out of the earth and was watering all the surface of the ground, then the Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life; and so man became a living being. [Genesis II: 5-7]

In this faith expression of a nomadic people, God is portrayed as a potter who molds the body out of clay. The artist God digs into the earth, and from this material He shapes, molds and sculpts his creation. He gives it life by embracing it and breathing into it. The form comes to life through the very breath of the Creator. As in Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel fresco, this limp form is given strength through the touch of God.

As I begin my service as Villanova’s president, it is this story of Creation that I hope will focus a way for us to see our world and execute our mission. It is through this method of creation that we must educate. We continue God’s creation by the way we shape and mold one another. Education is the breath of life that enables us to discover our potential and move in new directions. During this moment in Villanova’s history, we must evaluate how we mold and frame this community. How do we fashion each other as we take our place in a global community? The Augustinian principles of Veritas, Unitas and Caritas are the tenets of our creation and the central theme of this Inauguration. The words were not chosen to be a new brand for the University; rather, they were chosen because they are the foundation of what we are as Villanovans. They are the central images Augustine found in Scripture, and they became the agenda of his life and work. They are the principles he used to draw people into a community. They are the foundation upon which the Irish friars formed Villanova. They are the ideals that continue to challenge us today, and they are the values that will propel us into the future. Every decision we make must be framed within these values.

The delights of truth invite us to learn. Veritas. Augustine was a lifelong student in search of truth. The academic identity of Villanova must remain the pinnacle of our creation. It is the clay in our hands, and it is where we begin to sculpt.

As a Catholic university infused with an Augustinian spirituality and pedagogy, we engage in a discourse with the world around us to search out the truth in all disciplines. Remaining committed to the Gospel values, we cannot be afraid to encounter and debate the challenges from voices of disagreement.

We must emphasize a holistic approach to education and acknowledge that there are many aspects of the University that contribute to the process of creation. It is our responsibility to form the total person: intellectually, emotionally, spiritually, culturally, socially and physically. The center of the University needs to be an intellectual center. Our library needs to be refashioned to become a storehouse of knowledge from which everything radiates. Our classrooms must come to the residence halls,

**Instructing the Mind**

**Igniting the Heart**

**Illuminating the Spirit**
and our residence halls must inform the classroom. Our expressions of faith should enliven our work. Our student life programs need to be extensions of our academic endeavor, our playing fields transformed into arenas of learning. Our social events should foster respect for people. And we need to build, and I mean build, a center where culture is appreciated and explored. This is a place where we can shape the body, probe the heart and elevate the soul. Villanova prides itself as a liberal arts institution of learning, a place where humanity is examined with an open but critical mind. Therefore, in our search for truth we can never renounce the liberal or ignore the arts.

*Be of one heart and one mind. Unitas.* In the 4th century, Augustine recognized that it is with others that one finds God. In the 19th century, the Irish Augustinians envisioned that education would fortify a community and, in the 21st century, we acknowledge that within community we can achieve our true potential. Villanova creates and fosters community. It dwells in our spirit and tradition, but it takes time, energy and commitment for it to be formed. We need to build ways to support it. We must carefully examine how the physical plant contributes to the development of community. Classrooms must be designed to promote dialogue and global understanding, and our buildings must be constructed with environmental sensitivity. We need to continue upgrading residence halls to support a living atmosphere that brings people together in friendship within an intellectual climate.

We must continue to build bridges between our campus and the surrounding community. Our neighbors are invited to share in our academic, athletic and cultural life. Villanova has something to offer them, and they have something to offer us; we must treat them and their property with respect.

In our search for community, it is important to remember that we will never achieve new levels of understanding if we are only with people who think, act and believe the way we do. We must acknowledge where each of us has been and the different experiences we bring to this community. For 164 years, Villanova has been a place that has empowered people to ascend to new heights. There are over 85,000 alumni from all walks of life. They are in places and in careers they never imagined the day they arrived at Villanova. Many have been the first in their families to attain a college education. It was in this environment that they discovered something new about themselves and achieved the skills they needed to take different paths. The stories are numerous and span our history. Beginning with one of Villanova’s first students, the son of Irish indentured servants who became a leading Philadelphia merchant, to a young Hispanic woman who came to Villanova five years ago from a section of Manhattan known as Alphabet City and who is now pursuing a graduate degree in math and statistics.

Villanova was founded to be a community where people are able to mature. We must continue to advance this mission. We need to herald a diverse community of
race, class and geography. We need to welcome people of different faiths, orientations and experiences. We need to stop referring to ourselves as “Vanillanova.” We are not—and can never be—one flavor, but rather we should see ourselves as an immigrant population who come from a variety of families, experiences and places in order to build this new home, to unite in a culture of giving, to acknowledge the blessings we have received and to ensure that others will share the same. This is an Augustinian community; this has always been and must remain Villanova’s objective.

The delights of truth invite us to learn, but the demands of love oblige us to teach. Caritas. Throughout his life, Augustine wrestled with love and, like many of us he searched for it in a myriad of ways. He believed that love was the glue that linked all aspects of life. We realize that love is a difficult ideal and can create positive or negative effects. It can be the source of exhilaration and of pain. It can manipulate or liberate. But in the process of creation, love is always the source of life. How can you create and not love what you have created? Artists need to share their work with others, for every work contains a part of the soul. It is a course of action that demands self-disclosure and beckons people to discern meaning for themselves. Love requires us to care about the life and direction of another. It has the power to break the shackles of ignorance and isolation. For a faith community, love must be the driving force of all actions.

We cannot say that we are in search of truth, that we desire to form community, and not be willing to serve one another. Our belief in the concepts of Veritas, Unitas and Caritas requires action. They should never be simply words we speak or engrave on a seal. We must take them into our hands and knead them into all we do and, like the artist, we must share our soul with others. One of my requests was that this Inauguration celebration would include a Day of Service, a time for us, in love, to share what we have with those around us. I call each of us to make every day such a day.

From the day I was selected to serve in this role, people have been asking me to share my vision for the University. I don’t want us to be anyone else. We know what we do. It is not complicated. I want Villanova to be Villanova. It has been said that the greatest journey begins with a single step. However, for the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, who took office on June 1 as the 32nd president of Villanova University, the journey from his boyhood home in Royal Oak, Mich., to the corner office in Tolentine Hall began with a single advertisement in a magazine. The ad called upon young men to consider the life of an Augustinian friar. Until that time, he had not given any thought to the Order of St. Augustine, even though the Donohues annually returned to the Bronx, N.Y., where he was born in 1952, to visit family members. His relatives there were parishioners at the Augustinian Church of St. Nicholas of Tolentine on University Avenue and Fordham Road.

However, even as a youth, he was beginning to experience the call to the ministerial priesthood. That call, said Father Donohue, was fostered by the Dominican sisters who taught him in grammar school and high school. “I knew I wanted to teach,” he recalled, “and the ad stated the Augustinians were a teaching order.”

At the same time, however, another life reached out to him, that of the theater, especially the musical theater. Father Donohue’s parents, Mary and the late Morgan Donohue, raised their four children—he has an older brother, Michael, and two sisters, Patricia and the late Denise—in a house filled with music, much of it Irish and Big Band. Blessed with a love for singing and a strong baritone voice, he also had the example of his older brother, who became a professional actor. As if priesthood and theater were not enough, this young man with many talents also wanted to become a high school teacher.

Part of the answer came in that magazine ad, which highlighted the Augustinians as educators. Thinking about the ad set off a few bells in Father Donohue’s memory.

“We spent every summer in New York because we were the only ones of our extended family living outside the Bronx,” Father Donohue recalled. “Everyone else stayed there, and they wouldn’t come out to the Midwest. My father worked for the New York Central Railroad and we traveled for free. So, even though we were from...
the land of lakes, we went back to the Bronx every summer and went to Jones Beach and Rockaway.

“After I saw the ad, I started making connections. The Augustinians ran Tolentine High School in the Bronx. My aunt worked in that school. My cousins went there. So, my senior year in high school, my relatives took me over to the rectory at St. Nick’s and introduced me to Father Bob Drummond, who was the first Augustinian to whom I actually spoke. I applied for admission to the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, and the rest is history.”

Professed as a member of the Augustinian Order in 1973, he earned a bachelor’s degree from Villanova in 1975 with a concentration in theatre and communication arts, and was ordained a priest in 1979. Father Donohue got his wish to teach young people, too. From 1978 to 1979, he taught religion and English to the 8th grade class at St. Augustine Parish in Andover, Mass., where he also directed the youth ministry and liturgical music groups. From 1979 to 1982, he taught at Archbishop Carroll High School in Washington, D.C., while studying at The Catholic University of America, where he earned a master’s degree in theatre in 1983. Two years later, he was awarded a master’s degree in divinity from the Washington Theological Union. In 1982, he returned to the Province’s headquarters at Villanova to serve as director of the vocation office for three years.

In 1985, Father Donohue joined Villanova’s faculty as an instructor in the theatre department. In 1988, he departed for the Midwest when he was accepted into the theatre doctoral program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he was awarded his doctorate in 1992. His thesis, “Shozo Sato and the Interculturation of Kabuki and Western Theatre,” reflected an interest he had developed in this traditional Japanese theater.

“Kabuki fascinated me with its form and beauty,” Father Donohue said. “In some ways, it was a heightened level of musical theater. I was introduced to it by a faculty member at Illinois, Shozo Sato, who was himself a Kabuki actor.” Kabuki is more about form and style than about developing a dramatic story line. The actors use a language dating to the 1600s, wear elaborate costumes and stylized makeup, and are accompanied by traditional instruments. However, most Japanese are familiar with the story and music, if not the language. Father Donohue has said that there is nothing comparable to Kabuki except, in a way, grand opera. Opera fans already know the plot; while they may not understand the language, they attend a performance to hear the singers and the orchestra, and to watch the spectacle.

During his time at Illinois, Father Donohue also taught and served as the assistant house manager at the university’s Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. In 1990, he was admitted to the Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

In 1992, Father Donohue returned to Villanova. Until he took office in June as University president, he chaired the theatre department. Since 1993, he had directed theatre productions at Vasey Theatre, specializing in musicals such as West Side Story, Candide, Evita, Into the Woods, Chicago, Parade and others. The Philadelphia theater critics took notice—very favorable notice. So did the Barrymore Awards, Philadelphia’s equivalent of Broadway’s Tony Awards. The Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia regularly nominated Villanova Theatre productions for Barrymores. Father Donohue himself earned five nominations as best director and, in 2002, his production of Chicago brought him a top Barrymore: the Harold Prince Award for Outstanding Direction of a Musical. Chicago also won eight nominations for production, ensemble, lead and supporting actors, costume design
and choreography. His staging of Parade won The Philadelphia Inquirer 2004 Critics Award for theater productions.

Villanova honored Father Donohue in 2001 with the Graduate Alumni Society of Arts and Sciences Founder's Award. Last spring's Urinetown, which would be his final Villanova Theatre production before assuming the presidency, has brought him and the company another slew of Barrymore nominations.

On December 13, 2005, Villanova's Board of Trustees chose Father Donohue to succeed the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., '58 A&S, who earlier had announced he would retire after 18 years as University president. Father Donohue took office on June 1 and was inaugurated on September 8.

Throughout his teaching career, Father Donohue always found the time to serve as chaplain for Villanova's ROTC program, as well as a contributor to New Student Orientation, a Residence Life hall minister, a convocation speaker at the 1999 St. Thomas of Villanova Day, a member of academic committees and a trustee at Merrimack College—and more. Even after taking office as president, he continued to preside at the Sunday evening Mass at the St. Thomas of Villanova Church, and hopes to continue to celebrate the 10 p.m. Sunday Liturgy for students.

In the last two years alone, Father Donohue has celebrated 56 alumni marriages. He knows almost every member of Villanova's staff and faculty by name. He probably has never walked from his home at Burns Hall to his office without at least a dozen stops for conversation.

Not the sort of man to be confined by an office, figuratively or literally, Father Donohue will remain a very prominent presence on campus and on the road, meeting friends and former students in the alumni chapters. Don't be surprised if he suddenly breaks into song. Singing is one of the ways he celebrates his identity as leader, minister and community builder. He will have plenty to sing about.

During a conversation before his Inauguration, Father Donohue recalled his reaction when the trustees elected him as University president last December. He also discussed the ideas and ideals he hopes to bring to his office. The interview took place in the President's Office in Tolentine Hall. Father Donohue has decorated his new office with scores of pictures from the many marriages of Villanovans at which he has officiated, and of the alumni babies he has baptized.

Q: (MAUREEN MCKEW) What was your reaction to being elected?

A: (FATHER DONOHUE) Shock. I was in my office in the theatre department with my secretary, Eileen Ciccareno. It was about 10 after 10, and she had just asked me if I had any idea when or how I would be notified of the result of the election. The phone rang. It was the chairman of the Board of Trustees, Jack Drosdick [John G. Drosdick '65 Ch.E.], and he said, “Do you know why I am calling?” “Oh my God,” I said. “Well,” he said, “that’s a good response.” He then told me I had been elected, congratulated me and told me that the rest of the board members were waiting to meet me at the Villanova Conference Center, where the election had taken place. So I went over. I was so overwhelmed that it was almost funny.

I was really surprised because there had been no indication as to who of the six candidates was leading or anything like that, just a lot of rumors.

Q: Why did you decide to run?

A: Actually, I sat on the decision for a while. I realized I met the basic criteria—doctorate and experience in administration—but when I was asked if I was considering allowing my name to be placed in nomination, I initially said I didn’t think I would. I love my involvement with the students. I am passionate about teaching. Directing gives me great fulfillment. I realized that if I became president, all of that would have to go on the shelf. Being president would also demand a lot of travel, and I kept thinking how much I love watching students move from first year to graduation and deciding where they want to go in the world.

Then, a very good Augustinian friend of mine asked me about running, and when I told him no, he told me I was crazy not to. He said: “You can do what you want as president. If you want to stay involved with the students, you can. Besides, you are just putting your name in for consideration; you might not even be selected as a candidate.”Then the Prior Provincial, Father Donald Reilly [the Very Rev. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., ’71 A&S, D. Min.], who submits the names to the board, called to ask if I would be sending a letter. So I did, thinking that if I were elected that would be fine, but that I loved the job I had—the best job I had ever had.

Q: Augustinian priest, actor and director, teacher. You bring a unique package of gifts to the presidency. How do you see yourself using them?

A: That’s an interesting question. Certainly, as an Augustinian I will continue to bring the commitment and the spirituality of the community. Villanova was founded for the purpose of educating students in the spirituality of St. Augustine: that sense of community, of friendship, of searching out and looking for God through other people, and that sense of engaging the heart and mind that has always been central to the life of the Augustinian community. The school was founded back in 1842 to educate immigrant boys to be faith-filled individuals who brought that faith out into the world. As an Augustinian, I have a responsibility and a passion for continuing our involvement with the hearts and minds of our students. My predecessor, Father Edmund Dobbin, constantly echoed the ideals of the Augustinian community and the Augustinian mission of the school. In fact, I think this was one of his major contributions to Villanova.

The theater is not as disconnected from the presidency as some might think. I preside at many weddings, and when I tell people I teach theatre rather than theology, as they usually expect, they often say: “Are you allowed to do that?” Theater is an art form that attempts to open up to an audience the life, the
soul, the spirit of other people; of allowing people an opportunity to step into the world of somebody else and see that world, be entertained by that world, be challenged by that world. For an actor, it's a matter of being confronted and asking oneself how do I capture the spirit of another person—the life, the humor, the struggle, whatever—and let that spirit move through me to make me look at myself or the world differently, or confirm what I already believe. That is the ultimate goal of any educational experience.

My life in the theater has been one of teaching: teaching people by enabling them not only to let their hearts and minds come together, but also to let their spirits soar. It's more than an academic experience. I don't see myself in the presidency to change the way people do things but rather to be an example of an individual committing to serving others, to mentoring and encouraging others to share their gifts with others, and to become leaders themselves.

Q: It seems that ever since you joined the faculty, you have been lobbying for an arts center. Can we expect to see one soon?

A: So many people have been kidding me about that. I guess they were expecting me to get out the ceremonial shovel and break ground on June 1. In all seriousness, however, I think that for a school this size, with its well-deserved reputation for fostering liberal arts education, it is essential that there be a center for the arts here on campus. The Villanova Theatre, which is currently housed in Vasey Hall, has more than 700 subscribers from Philadelphia and from nearby towns. We have a number of people coming to the diPasquale concerts in St. Mary's Chapel. We have a growing film series. We need a center for this and more.

I am not interested in creating something massive. We have a wealth of large arts centers in Philadelphia. My interest is in creating a center where our students and the people in the community can develop their creative abilities and experiment with their creative sides. It doesn’t need to be huge, but it should be classy. It should state that the arts are important in our lives and that they are vital to the total educational experience. A Villanova center for the arts is a mission for me, and if any person thinks that as president I will not continue to push for it, that person is mistaken. I am sure that there are many people in the Villanova community and alumni association who would want to contribute in one way or another to this center.

Q: How would you like to enhance Villanova’s relationship with the city of Philadelphia?

A: I would really like to connect the students even more. I would like them to take as much advantage as they can of the culture of Philadelphia. It’s such a vibrant city and was important to the founding of our republic. We also have a great record of student service there already, and I will encourage that to grow. Our school was founded to educate poor people, so we must always challenge ourselves to bring that mission out to others who are less fortunate—not just in Philadelphia but throughout the country and the world, as our students already do. However, I also am eager to foster stronger relationships with our neighbors in the surrounding townships. Many of them are longtime subscribers to the Villanova Theatre. I want to create more reasons for them to become involved with the life of the University.

Q: How would you describe your first few months?

A: I came into office with a fairly open mind. The people on the staff of the President’s Office have been very helpful to me. I’ve discovered that I am going to do things a bit differently than I had anticipated when I was elected. I attended a five-day seminar at Harvard University for new presidents. It was very beneficial, and I came back with some very good, practical ideas to incorporate into the presidency and the President’s Office. For example, I don’t want to be stuck in my office all the time. I want to be out into the presidency and the President’s Office. For example, I anticipated when I was elected. I attended a five-day seminar at Harvard University for new presidents. It was very beneficial, and I came back with some very good, practical ideas to incorporate into the presidency and the President’s Office. For example, I don’t want to be stuck in my office all the time. I want to be out and about on campus to meet people. The first thing I will do after the Inauguration is travel around the country to visit the alumni chapters. I’m looking forward to seeing everyone. However, in order to do that, I will expand the staff a bit and give some responsibilities to other people. That’s a work in progress.

Q: What are your goals for your first year?

A: There are many needs. Certainly the arts center is one of them. Construction for the new Villanova School of Law facility is getting under way in the parking lot next to the existing building. The plans for the new College of Nursing building are just about approved, and the new athletic facility in front of the Pavilions is already started.

As for longterm goals, as much as I like to talk about the cultural life on campus, I am also aware of the pressing need to create an academic center. Falvey Memorial Library has needs. What I really want to do, before we attempt anything else, is to create a campus plan on how things will unfold and where facilities should be. I need to look at the flow; I need to work with people on this.

“My life in the theater has been one of teaching: teaching people by enabling them not only to let their hearts and minds come together, but also to let their spirits soar.”

—FATHER DONOHUE
Faculty and Staff Celebrate at Presidential Reception

BY IRENE BURGO

 Delicious food, music and animated conversation abounded at the Pavilion on September 6 at the Presidential Reception for Villanova University Faculty and Staff. It was held as part of the Inauguration events for the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, Villanova’s 32nd president.

Hundreds of members of the Villanova community—administrators, faculty and staff—had an opportunity to meet Father Donohue from 3 to 6 p.m. They could walk up to him at will to offer their congratulations and good wishes. The scrumptious hors d’oeuvres included stuffed Belgian endive, smoked duck and filet bites. A variety of more substantial fare peppered the buffet tables lining the perimeter of the room. There were cheese trays with champagne grapes and other fruit, ravioli with fresh tomatoes and marinara sauce, jumbo cold shrimp, hot filet of beef and roast turkey, as well as rolls, sauces and much more.

Not to be missed was the strawberry shortcake table. Guests could make their own dessert from the mounds of individual shortcakes piled high, ready to be adorned with fresh berries, syrup, whipped cream—the real thing—and hot chocolate flowing from a tiered fountain. Dining Services truly showcased its talents in catering the inaugural events.

Dr. Susan Mackey-Kallis, associate professor of communication and chair of the University Senate, introduced Father Donohue and summarized his accomplishments as chair of the theatre department. Villanovans cheered as he stepped up to the podium. In his remarks, Father Donohue described a conversation he had with an employee who, in stopping by to congratulate the new president, mentioned that he worked in “the bowels of the University.”

“There is no such thing as working in the bowels of the University,” Father Donohue said, “because whatever [work] you do makes this institution important…. You—the people dedicated to the mission of Villanova—make the University what it is,” he emphasized. “I cannot express my gratitude to you enough. I am honored to be the person who will serve you for years to come. So thank you for being here.”

Student Ball Honors Father Donohue’s Inauguration

BY ANDREW SHEEHAN ’06 A&S

On the evening of September 6, a student ball in the Pavilion celebrated the Inauguration of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, as Villanova University’s 32nd president.

About 1,400 students attended the ball, which featured a live band and dancing. The evening included a buffet dinner of sushi, roast beef, turkey, ham and pasta, as well as nonalcoholic drinks served at a sculpted ice bar.

Father Donohue’s vitality was contagious and set the tone. The new president offered a few words before the festivities got under way, thanking the students for their involvement. “All of you make Villanova what it is,” he told them. He reminded everyone that Villanova is an institution that cares for people, adding that he hopes students will come to understand fully what it means to care for someone. At the conclusion of his remarks, the students presented the new president with a T-shirt signed by those at the ball.

Asked why he chose to have this Student Inauguration Ball, Father Donohue said he felt it was important to do something for the student body but wanted the activity chosen to come from students. So he established a student committee and asked its members to pick an activity that students would enjoy.

Throughout the evening, Father Donohue continued to be a charismatic presence. At one point, he led his former theatre students in a dance he had taught them in class.
Celebration at Museum Emphasizes Art and Villanova’s Ties with Philadelphia

By Michael Nataro ’06 A&S, ’08 M.A.

On September 7, Villanova University hosted An Evening of Celebration at the Philadelphia Museum of Art to celebrate the Inauguration of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S as the University’s 32nd president. Among the more than 1,000 guests were administrators, faculty, staff, students, trustees and alumni, as well as friends and family members of the new president.

After 90 minutes of mingling with the invited guests, Father Donohue climbed the immense staircase that showcases the museum. There at the top of the steps, he was introduced by John G. Droodick ’65 Ch.E., chairman of Villanova’s Board of Trustees and chairman and CEO of Sunoco, Inc. Will Sheridan Jr. ’07 A&S and Trisha M. Elms ’08 M.E. were the co-hosts for the evening, which included cocktails, musical tributes and remarks from the new president. Six graduates of the theatre program sang a medley of songs from the various musicals Father Donohue had directed during his 13 years with the theatre department prior to taking office as president on June 1.

Father Donohue wanted this event to take place at the art museum as a way of reinforcing the importance of the arts to the Villanova community, according to Christopher J. Kovolski ’96 A&S, director of Development Communications. “Father Donohue wants a stronger presence in Philadelphia and a stronger partnership with Philadelphia organizations,” he said. The evening at the museum “was a way to invigorate this relationship.”

Guests could enjoy two wings of the museum featuring European art; those galleries remained open during the evening.

Gary R. Olsen ’74 A&S, ’80 G.S., assistant vice president of alumni affairs and executive director of the Villanova University Alumni Association, recalled, “I thought the night was a wonderful reflection of Villanova’s past, present and future. There were...
alumni present from all over the country, representing all classes and colleges; this was truly a Villanova event.”

Several Philadelphia landmarks highlighted the Inauguration in special ways. Boathouse Row sparkled in white and blue lights along the Schuylkill River. The top of the PECO building scrolled the words “Villanova celebrates its 32nd president.” And the new Cira Centre skyscraper lit up its windows in the shape of a giant “V.”

Michael Nataro ’06 A&S, ’08 M.A., who majored in political science and philosophy with a concentration in Arab and Islamic Studies, is now a graduate student in political science at Villanova University. As an undergraduate, he interned in the Internet Office of the Holy See in Rome and at Villanova’s Office of Communication and Public Affairs, where he continues to work. He hopes to pursue a career in the foreign service.

Well-wishers by the hundreds—administrators, faculty, staff, students and alumni—dined, sang and danced under tents on Mendel Field on the evening of September 8. As guests at the Dinner and Festival Celebration, they gathered with the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, following his Inauguration ceremony that afternoon as the 32nd president of Villanova University.

The guest of honor—affectionately known to many of them as Father Peter—was on hand to greet everyone and accept their congratulations. Father Donohue seemed to be having as much fun as they were, even during one of the most demanding weeks of his life. Although the Sun disappeared from sight as the dinner started at 5 p.m., the weather remained pleasantly clear and warm.

Mendel Field was a festive sight with several large white tents and about 100 circular white tables, all with chairs for the guests, table linens and centerpieces of greenery.

The entertainment featured several groups from Villanova’s Music Activities Office, led by John Dunphy, director. Talented students performed, including the Villanova Singers, Dancers and Irish Dancers. Alumni sang along, cheering especially loudly when the Villanova Band performed “V for Villanova,” the University’s fight song.

Guests dined on roast beef, roast pork, rolls and a variety of salads. A beautiful dessert was the evening’s showcase. Towering tiers of vanilla and chocolate checkered cake with vanilla butter cream icing, topped with a beautifully rendered St. Thomas of Villanova Church, were more than enough to tempt the most discriminating of gourmets. Staff volunteers serving the confection also added to each plate a white chocolate medallion with the Villanova seal emblazoned in full color—beauty to behold and to savor.

Thank you, Father Peter! Good show!
Villanova’s Day of Service Is a Success

BY IRENE BURGO

On September 9, more than 1,200 Villanova University faculty, staff and alumni volunteers fanned out to clean up parks, help at food banks and aid communities in other ways. Their activities on this Community Day of Service were part of the week of events celebrating the Inauguration of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, as Villanova University’s 32nd president. Father Donohue has stipulated that community service, an important feature of the Augustinian-Roman Catholic tradition, be a major component of his presidency. Villanovans around the country and world also volunteered in their communities on this Saturday.

To help the greater Philadelphia region and its suburbs, Villanovans on campus signed up for more than 30 locales, including soup kitchens, nursing homes, schools, charity events and several parishes. Volunteers on clean-up squads tidied up lawns and picked up trash at parks and sports fields. Dr. John Huxford, assistant professor of communication, was part of a contingent that went to Clem Macrone Park in Radnor, Pa. Armed with gloves, trash bags and boundless enthusiasm, faculty from the communication department joined freshmen from St. Monica Hall in clearing the park of rubbish.

Their efforts did not go unnoticed. Oliver Carley, a Radnor Township resident who was walking in the park, enjoying the morning sunshine with his two children, commented: “It’s great to see you guys! As a rule, the park is kept pretty tidy, but we do get lots of kids in here. Your help is really appreciated.”

The Day of Service honored Villanova’s commitment to sharing one’s blessings with those less fortunate, which is part of the legacy inspired by St. Thomas of Villanova and his concern for the impoverished. The day also celebrated the University’s mission and Father Donohue’s vision for Villanova’s future.

At 8 a.m. on the morning after his Inauguration, Father Donohue offered the volunteers a blessing and send-off on Mendel Field, then visited several of the sites during the day. He began at North Philadelphia Habitat for Humanity, where some 15 students rolled up their sleeves to participate in construction. Donning a hard hat, he climbed the two-story scaffolding to help them paint the building. Next, he traveled to Heart of Camden in New Jersey’s Waterfront South, where 120 faculty and staff were cleaning out old buildings to ready them for rehabilitation. The new president joined them in planting a tree.

At noon, back in Philadelphia, Father Donohue visited St. Augustine’s Parish, where he greeted 50 volunteers doing various jobs, including cleaning and painting the columns inside the church. He lunched with the Rev. Joseph S. Mostardi, O.S.A., ’72 A&S, parish pastor and founder of the Augustinian Volunteers Program. Olde St. Augustine’s Church was the first permanent establishment of the Order of St. Augustine in the United States, as well as the country’s first Roman Catholic Church. The present church was completed in 1847.

“Daddy, I brought my dump truck!” says Judah Woodard (right), who helps with the clean-up. Judah, age 4, is the son of Dr. Emory H. Woodard IV (center), assistant professor of communication at Villanova University. Enjoying a bird’s-eye view of the action is his daughter, Amani, who is a year old.
Volunteers, including Dr. Helen K. Lafferty, University vice president, and her husband, Jim, helped out.

Father Donohue then headed for North Light Community Center in the city's Manayunk neighborhood. There, he observed 45 students, faculty and staff who were painting and refurbishing the center.

Overall, it was a day well spent, according to participants. Father Donohue summed it up, saying that “This Day of Service is a significant aspect of the Inauguration events and represents an important part of the University’s mission. By serving in so many different ways, we are sharing with others the Caritas [love] that has come to define the Villanova community. I hope that students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents and friends who came together today in the spirit of St. Thomas of Villanova continue to find ways to help those in need outside of this Day of Service. This is an important part of our legacy as Villanovans, and I would like to see it become an annual University event.”

Later that afternoon, at Siloam, Father Donohue greeted the Very Rev. Donald F. Reilly, O.S.A., D. Min., ’71 A&S. Father Reilly is co-founder of Siloam, which offers “a safe, confidential space where those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS can access a resource for wellness through spirituality,” according to its Web site. Twenty volunteers, including Dr. Helen K. Lafferty, University vice president, and her husband, Jim, helped out.

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Villanovans and the Community Gather for Closing Liturgy

By Irene Burgo

The week’s Inauguration events and festivities came to a close on the afternoon of Sunday, September 10, with the celebration of the Mass on Mendel Field. The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S, University president, presided at the Closing Community Liturgy.

Numerous students, faculty, staff and alumni, along with members of the Augustinian community and the Parish of St. Thomas of Villanova, drew together for this final public event in honor of Father Donohue’s Inauguration.

“Our belief in the concepts of Veritas, Unitas and Caritas requires action. They should never be simply words we speak or engrave on a seal.”

—From Father Donohue’s Inaugural Address
The moment they officially step on campus as new students, Villanovans encounter people who are taking time to serve. They are greeted by smiling students on the New Student Orientation staff who are welcoming newcomers and helping them get settled. Later on, new students learn about how the Orientation staff was selected and trained. This somewhat arduous training stands as a testament to Caritas in action at Villanova University. Each Orientation staffer’s service is evidence of how much Villanovans can care for their community, and how they express that caring in their actions.

At the newcomers’ first Mass on campus, pastoral musicians and liturgical ministers vibrantly add to that expression of caring, further cultivating the seeds of Caritas. Inevitably, a few freshmen might be turned off by the experience of Orientation, but rarely without gaining the awareness of how much people love this place.

When the mayhem of classes begins, those seeds usually get buried under piles of books, syllabi and the demands of daily life. But let’s just call everything fertilizer, because so many students in one way or another begin to nurture those seeds into something larger, something that can spread beyond the campus into the greater world around us and hopefully change it, little by little.

Venturing out as volunteers

For many students, service break trips are a time to further cultivate those seeds by seeing the face of poverty and suffering in places as nearby as the Bronx, N.Y; further afield in Slidell, La.; or all the way to Oaxaca, Mexico, and Durban, South Africa, among many other locations around the globe. Approximately 800 students per year participate in Villanova’s service trips during the spring or fall break or over holidays and summer, and they are joined by members of the faculty and staff. Others take part in service break trips on their own. Out there in the world, Villanovans encounter other communities to love, and often become aware of the world’s lack of love for those in so many marginalized communities.

It’s not only on service trips far away that students find marginalized communities. Community Outreach of Villanova (COV) offers 10 weekly opportunities to volunteer in the area, from soup kitchens in West Philadelphia to after-school tutoring in Marayunk. Other possibilities are part of Campus Ministry’s program of service, which includes the service break trips. Last summer, Campus Ministry established the St. Thomas of Villanova Virtual Center for Service, bringing all these opportunities for volunteering and social justice together under one Web site.

“There was one trip a few years ago,” recalled Noreen Cameron, former director of COV. “I had taken Villanova students to help clean up a park in inner-city Philadelphia, along with a group of kids from the area of the city we were in. At the end, we all sat together, and I had everyone say what they wanted to do when they grew up. One of the Villanovans got up, and while looking at the inner-city kids said, ‘I want to be president, and I will never forget you.’ It is those moments that make it all worth it because they are indicative that the power bestowed upon our students as college graduates might be exercised with these memories somewhere deep inside.” Volunteers encourage the youngsters to dream big as well.

A portrait of Villanovans sowing the seeds of Caritas, the caring cultivated on campus that thrives long after graduation.
Living the life of serving and learning

Cameron is now director of the new Office of Service Learning in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The mission of service learning is to integrate “academics with service in order to enhance learning and to enable our students to participate in critical and constructive thinking and action that promotes the common good,” according to the office’s Web site.

Almost all freshmen are now part of learning communities, grouped around themes such as Leadership, Visions of Freedom and Environmental Issues. Those who wish to continue their learning community experience may seek residence in the sophomore service learning community. In small groups, these students make daily round trips to North Philadelphia, traveling a total of about 5,400 miles a year to mentor at Jay Cooke Elementary School; to tutor at the Urban Bridges adult literacy program; and to join students from other colleges helping in offices of National Student Partnerships, where local citizens can find free guidance on community resources for empowerment.

For students eligible for financial aid through the federal work-study program, Project Sunshine provides an opportunity to use their education in service to others. It’s hard to miss Sunshine’s schedule when you’re walking through the second floor of Dougherty Hall. The hourly pay is small, and there are easier and more convenient work-study jobs right on campus. For the students whose names are listed on this bulletin board, it’s more likely there’s another draw. As Ivanley Noisette, a junior political science major who has worked for Project Sunshine since his freshman year, expressed it, “It feels better to make a difference” in someone’s life.

The service path stretches on after Villanova

You might have heard of Water for Waslala, a project started by Matthew Nespoli ’04 A&S and some of his fellow Villanova alumni. In the past two years, the project has raised nearly $150,000 to build more than 20 clean water systems for Nicaragua’s impoverished region of Waslala. There is a tradition among Villanova alumni who have founded similar projects that use the skills and knowledge they gained as students, a tradition of going out and making a better world for neighbors in need.

In 1987, Vincent Pescatore ‘83 VSB left a well-paying job at Pricewaterhouse to began the work he called, “preaching the kingdom of God.” In true solidarity, Pescatore took up residence in a Catholic community in the rain forest. In Guatemala, he would meet his future wife, Zulena; their family would grow to five children. They founded Farm of the Child in Guatemala to provide shelter, education and health care to orphans. In 1994, he founded a second Farm of the Child in Honduras. Two years later, while on a trip to build a church at the Honduras site, Pescatore died in a plane crash. Many mourned his death. Pescatore’s young widow continued her husband’s mission. In Guatemala, there are also several eye clinics, founded by Pennsylvania eye doctors, that are named in his memory.

From Orientation to Commencement, there are so many initiatives that serve to inspire Villanovans postgraduation, as demonstrated by the path chosen by Nespoli, Pescatore and many others. The latest of these efforts, was the Community Day of Service (see page 40).

“Service might start out as just a fun thing to do,” remarked Barbara Haenn, who through Campus Ministry coordinates postgraduate volunteer service, “and often moves into a phase where the servant feels it’s a good thing to be doing. Then we would hope as a campus ministry to move them deeper into a justice understanding of their work and their place in the world. It’s a model that would hopefully pervade their four-year journey while they are here.”

Visit the St. Thomas of Villanova Virtual Center for Service at campusministry.villanova.edu/ssj. Visit the Office of Service Learning at www.villanova.edu/artsci/college/academics/servicelearning/.

For more on the Pescatore eye clinics, visit www.voshpa.org and www.vosh.org.
Friday, August 18, was a very big day.

In fact it was move-in day for the majority of Villanova University’s 1,644 new students—the beginning of their four-day New Student Orientation. By definition, orientation is an introduction instruction for entering a new situation, and for the freshmen and other new students, it certainly was. Their schedule was packed with meetings, workshops, ice breakers and social gatherings. According to one family member, “There was a lot of cheering, too.” The theme for the Class of 2010 Orientation was “Believe, Achieve, Inspire with Wildcat Fire.”

By mid-day the process was in full swing. The newcomers and their families hauled in every sort of container crammed with all the necessities for survival in a residence hall—from alarm clocks to wedge pillows.

The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., ’75 A&S at 1:30 p.m. took on one of his first official duties as the new University president. In the Grotto, he led the welcoming addresses to students and parents.

The students then moved on to meetings with their Orientation Counselors (better known as OCs) while parents learned more about academics from the deans. The OCs are 80 carefully selected and trained upperclassmen who each lead a group of about 22 students. Lauren McLeod ’07 A&S, a communication major with minors in Africana Studies and sociology, served as student chair for this year’s Orientation.

At 4:30 p.m., Father Donohue celebrated the Welcoming Mass. Without a doubt, this was the most colorful, meaningful and spiritual event of Orientation. A picnic dinner for all followed on Mendel Field. Emotional goodbyes came next as family and friends departed, then the students gathered again with their OCs to learn more about letting their “Wildcat fire” shine brightly.

Orientation continued Sunday with workshops covering academics, concerns of new students, social life and college, Campus Ministry programs, the history of Villanova and its Augustinian tradition, college life, a small group discussion with a faculty member, alcohol and drug awareness, and much more.

The new students had numerous opportunities to have their questions answered and concerns addressed. The goal was to enable them to make this big step in their life experience as smooth and comfortable as possible.
Class of 2010!

Fall 2006  45
When the Israeli air strikes began on July 12, the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Villanova University was visiting family in Lebanon. In these excerpts from his diary, Father Ellis offers powerful reflections on his experience of being evacuated and on how a land of many faiths has been decimated by war.

By the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’69 M.A.
**July 6, Thursday.** This is probably my 25th trip to Lebanon. My first visit was when I had just turned 17. My parents agreed to send me to Beirut for several months to stay with my maternal uncle, Joseph Hobeiche, and his family to learn about Lebanon's culture and language and our family's Maronite Catholic history. Early in life, most likely through the influence of my mother's stories, I had developed a strong interest in Lebanon. She always wanted one of her children to experience Lebanon first-hand so that at least one of us would understand what she was saying when she talked about her homeland. As the youngest, and just out of high school with no other obligations, I became the lucky one. That trip proved to be historic. In July 1958, I was there to "greet" the Marines whom President [Dwight D.] Eisenhower sent to prevent the spread of Communism in the Middle East and to calm the civil war that threatened Lebanon's independence. Throughout my adult life, I have maintained a personal and academic connection to Lebanon. I wrote my doctoral dissertation on U.S. policy toward Lebanon in the civil wars of 1958 and 1976, have organized scholarly conferences on Lebanon and the Middle East, and published in these areas. In the 1990s, I established ties with two Lebanese universities: Lebanese American University, on which I served on the Board of Trustees from 1996 to 2003, and the American University of Science & Technology (AUST) in Beirut, where I spent the 2005 Fall Semester as a consultant to its developing school of arts and sciences. I expect that this will be another routine visit.

**July 7, Friday.** [arriving in Beirut] My friends Samira Mennasa and Houda Kmeid are waiting to take me to Kattine, where my cousin, Jouhaina Hobeiche, lives. Kattine is in the mountains about 35 miles north of Beirut. It is a beautiful area that has special meaning for me; it is the ancestral home of my mother's family.

**July 10, Monday.** Dr. Nabeel Haidar, provost of AUST, calls to invite me to lunch in Beirut. He sends a taxi. Mrs. [Hyam F.] Sakr, the president of AUST, and Nabeel's brother Adnan, a professor at the University of Arkansas, join us. [In Safra, a small seaside resort] I am staying with my cousins, Alain (Jouhaina's son); his wife, Desiree; and their three daughters: Sara, 13, Sandra, 12, and Serena, 9. Desiree and the children, along with Samira, Houda and Viviane Joseph (Alain's sister), have planned an overnight trip to the Crac des Chevaliers, a magnificent 11th-century crusader fortress in Syria. I have wanted to visit this castle ever since I saw a photo of it in my high school history book.

**July 11, Tuesday.** We leave in two cars for Tartous, where Houda arranged for us to stay with the Maronite bishop at his residence. The bishop greets everyone warmly and is very gracious; we'll have lunch at a very nice restaurant high in the mountains. He insists that I go with him, and Samira and Houda follow in their cars. He wants to give us a grand tour of his dioceses and let us visit certain shrines and see the construction of a new church. However, he takes us by the back roads, which are narrow and tortuous, and this makes Houda very nervous. I am struck by the beauty of the area, home to several Christian villages, as well as Alawites. Tartous is a beautiful city—much more cosmopolitan than I expected—and has a mixed population of Maronites, Orthodox and Sunni Muslims.

**July 12, Wednesday.** Given the roads, Houda and Samira are reluctant to drive, so we rent a minivan. To our delight, the road is much better than the one we were on yesterday. The castle is even more impressive than I imagined. On the bus back from the fortress, Samira receives a text message on her cell phone to hurry back home, as there is trouble on the Israeli border. We listen to the car radio, and the news is not good. Hezbollah has killed eight Israeli soldiers and captured two. Hezbollah's goal is to exchange the soldiers for Lebanese prisoners in Israel. The Israelis announce that if the soldiers are not returned, Lebanon's infrastructure, both civilian and military, will be hit. I decide to go to Beirut, where I plan to meet Nasser [Chourt], a communication instructor at Villanova who is in Lebanon for the summer. Nasser has tickets for a Fairuz concert Thursday in Baalbek, the magnificent Roman ruins. Fairuz, a famous Lebanese diva who now rarely performs in public, is Nasser's favorite singer.

**July 13, Thursday.** Last night, Israel began its bombardment of Lebanon. The Beirut airport was struck and is closed. Villages in the south also are bombed. As I am due to leave Lebanon on Saturday, I decide to explore other travel options. At the British Airways office in Beirut, the agent is hopeful that the airport will reopen in a few days, and recommends that I change my ticket to July 21—the next available opening. Tonight, there is more aerial bombardment in Dahieh [a poor, Shi‘ite suburb of Beirut] and in south Lebanon.
July 14, Friday. Things do not seem to be getting better. I return to the British Airways office and find it extremely crowded. We are advised not to travel to Syria. The Israelis have bombed the highway and continue to bombard Dahieh, the Hezbollah-operated Al-Manar TV studio and the apartment building of Hassan Nasrallah [secretary general of Hezbollah]. They announce later that this is only a warning, as they know that the buildings are empty.

I discover that my cell phone—which I brought thinking it would work only in Europe—works in Lebanon. I call my office to let them know that I’m all right. As a result, I begin to get calls from worried people in the States.

Catherine Hill, who works with me in the Dean’s Office, calls to give me the American Embassy numbers in Lebanon and to tell me that she has gone online to register Nasser and me with the embassy for evacuation.

I tell Nasser that we should leave Beirut, and think of going to my cousin Jouhaina’s in the north. I suspect Nasser will not want to go, as he is worried about his family in the south. They have left their home village for Tyre [a Lebanese port 12 miles from Israel] because of the bombardment around them. Soon, however, Tyre also comes under fire. This brings back for Nasser terrible memories of the civil war and the 1982 Israeli invasion. Two of Nasser’s friends come over and predict that this will be the end of Hezbollah. I’m not so optimistic.

July 15, Saturday. I decide to return to Jouhaina’s in case Nasser’s family makes it to his apartment in Beirut. The night before, the Israelis hit a bridge on the Tripoli road to the Syrian border. Later, they also bomb the lighthouse on the Beirut corniche and military installations in the ports of Jounieh, Amchit and Tripoli. The cell phone networks go down. A terrible feeling of isolation sets in.

July 16, Sunday. I celebrate Mass at Kattine with Jouhaina and Samira. Everyone is depressed. Catherine’s friend [who serves on a State Department task force to help Americans evacuate] calls to tell me that the embassy knows Nasser and I are in Lebanon and that we are on the evacuation list. Several other people

call, all very worried. I try to assure them that we are safe.

Lebanese TV is full of pictures of the death and the destruction caused by the Israeli bombardment. Nasrallah speaks again, this time from his TV studio. (When he spoke on Friday, he promised “all-out war” on Israel.) This means that the destruction of Lebanon will continue. Hezbollah has lobbed missiles into Israel and eight Israelis are killed at the Haifa train station. Israel promises a severe response.

In Tyre, the Red Cross building and surrounding neighborhood are bombed. There are many casualties, almost all civilians. CNN’s coverage of Israel’s dead and wounded is extensive. As for Lebanon, only the damaged airport runways and footage of people fleeing to Syrian border crossing are shown, not the wounded, dead and the destruction of the towns and villages in the south. Perhaps the correspondents are unable to reach the south. Nevertheless, the reporting is somewhat deceptive. The CNN correspondent speaks from downtown Beirut, where life seems to going on as normal.

I call Nasser and find that he is very upset and worried about his family. So far they are safe.

July 17, Monday. We wait. Israeli planes are flying overhead. We hear they have bombed the bridge in Dora, on the highway leading north. The airport has been hit yet again. Panic and food hording have begun. I try to call out but there is no network. I wonder how the embassy can contact us if the phones do not work. The phone network returns and I am able to get through to Nasser. His family is trying to get to Beirut via a circuitous route in the Chouf Mountains.

I go to Jounieh with Samira to check my e-mail. We can’t get to her office because there is no electricity to operate the elevators. I go next door to an Internet café, but I can’t access Villanova’s e-mail system. I try the Internet again at Safra to no avail. It seems that the lack of access is not due to the war; Villanova’s Internet system is down.

When Nasser calls, I tell him our only option is to wait for a call, and that they are evacuating according to priority—people from the south, those with medical needs and American students who are stranded.

We hear that the ATM machines and banks are no longer distributing dollars. This is extraordinary, since dollars are used interchangeably with Lebanese pounds, with dollars the preferred currency. The price of vegetables and other staples is rising because the truckers are risking their lives on the roads.

[Back in Safra] Several people from the States call again. I try to assure them that I’m all right, but that the people in the south are suffering an unmitigated tragedy.
Samira has been asked to mobilize people to gather bedding and towels for the refugees. All public, private and Catholic schools have been ordered opened to receive them. Desiree, who works for the Ministry of Public Health, is gathering medications. The Safra Marine resort complex has no vacancies due to the influx of refugees. God help those who cannot pay or escape by other means.

There are widespread reports of [President George W.] Bush's private conversation with [British Prime Minister Tony] Blair that Hezbollah should “stop this s--- and it will be all over.”

**July 18, Tuesday.** I remain in the mountains. The news reports here show foreigners being evacuated; there is much criticism of the slowness of the U.S. evacuation. Other countries have been able to evacuate their nationals much earlier—and free of cost. U.S. officials originally plan to have Americans pay for their own rides home by making them sign promissory notes before they board evacuation ships. Eventually, CNN reports that Bush has waived the evacuation fee due to protests from some members of Congress.

**July 20, Thursday.** The evacuation is not going well, and people are panicking. The Lebanese fear that once all the foreigners are gone, the Israeli bombing will intensify. The television shows clips of people going to the Beirut port even though they have not received a call from the embassy. I'm beginning to think this is not going to end well.

Around 9 p.m. Nasser calls. He was able to get through to the embassy, and they have confirmed that no one is being called! It is simply unmanageable for them to do so. Nasser has been advised to go to Dbeye (a small marina north of Beirut) for evacuation tomorrow by 6 a.m. He asks if we should go. I hesitate, knowing that it will be chaotic and because I hold on to the hope that this madness will end soon.

Nasser asks me to call the embassy to confirm that there will be other ships during the week, but I can't get through.

I remember Nabeel telling me that the former American ambassador to Lebanon, Vincent Battle, has returned to Beirut to assist in the evacuation. Nabeel gives me his telephone number, and I'm able to get through. Battle says that there will be five U.S. Navy ships coming to Lebanon tomorrow, and that the evacuation will continue until everyone who wants to go has gone. If I want to leave, then tomorrow is my best bet. Battle acknowledges that the trip will not be pleasant, and ends our conversation by saying that he looks forward to working with me on the AUST Board of Trustees. I think, “Well, this is optimistic. Will there be anything left to Lebanon by the time the board convenes?”

I call Nasser to tell him what Battle said. He talks things over with his family, and decides he will go. Jouhaina doesn’t want me to leave now, advising that I wait until the bulk of people have been evacuated. I decide that it’s best to go now. Who knows when the opportunity will present itself again? Jouhaina arranges with her neighbor, Tony, to take me to Dbeye, which is near his workplace at Nestlé.

**July 21, Friday.** By the time we get off, it’s 6:20 a.m. I’m concerned about the delay, but there is nothing I can do. We are turned around at various checkpoints, but finally make it to the gathering place, an overpass on the main highway.

There is absolutely no order. Hundreds of people are standing, pushing and shoveling. I don't think there’s a family with fewer than three children under the age of 6. Two Army trucks form a barrier to the inner compound, where it appears the processing is taking place. This is deceptive. Marines are on the trucks, as well as embassy personnel who speak Arabic and appear to be Lebanese. One of them gets very upset with the crowd and shouts at them in Arabic that they are lucky to be there. Another person from the embassy tries to calm him down. The Marines make several announcements on a loudspeaker, but it is impossible to hear. Progress is measured in inches and takes hours.

I call Nasser’s cell phone. He says he’s by the trucks, which means he must have gotten there much earlier than I did.

Some people are carrying green sheets of paper that certify they were there yesterday, but were turned away due to lack of space on the ships. This must have been terribly frustrating.

After what seems like an eternity, I arrive by the trucks. People are trying to hand over their babies and small children to the Marines, who tell the people they cannot be responsible for the children. Some parents have been separated from their children, on different sides of the barrier. People are handing over infant formula, milk for the children and luggage (not the one small bag we were instructed to carry but huge suitcases). The Marines decide to let families go first, which is good, but means that I wait still longer. It’s hot and the only relief is bottled water, which the Marines are distributing. They advise people to drink; many children are dehydrated. There are several elderly people, including some in wheelchairs. A few plastic chairs are brought for them to sit on.

There is hardly room to breathe. Everyone is cheek by jowl, with strollers and suitcases pressing in between. I think to myself, if only I could move I would get out of here and go back to my cousin’s. But I'm wedged in and can't even budge. Most of the people appear to be of Lebanese origin, expatriates who have come home on holiday.

Finally, after about three hours, I am allowed to pass the truck barrier. At first glance this appears to be progress, but the ordeal has only begun. I again call Nasser, who says he’s about to board a ship, the USS Trenton, for Cyprus.

After showing our passports, we are directed to enter the first of many tents. Initially, there appears to be some processing going on, but that turns out not to be the case. My back is killing me and I can’t stand anymore. I sit on my suitcase; other
people sit on the ground. At last we reach the
end of the first tent, only to enter the second.
I notice other tents ahead of me, and lines of
people going to yet another tent! This contin-
ues for another six hours.

Finally, we reach a tent where our pass-
pports and bags are checked yet again, and we
are scanned by a hand-held metal detec-
tor. I think we’re almost done, but again
that’s not the case. We are directed to
another tent where we stand (or sit on the
ground) for another two hours. People are
eating what food they have brought with
them. The Marines are handing out bottled
water and C-ration for the children. It’s
spaghetti with meat sauce that some peo-
ple, for religious dietary reasons, don’t eat.
After some time, this line begins to move.
We wait to be called to where the embassy
personnel are stationed. About 10 staff
members are entering names and passport
numbers into computers.

At last, a female Marine asks if there is
anyone traveling alone. I raise my hand
and am ushered through. I think the worst
must now be over, as I’m directed to go
to the shoreline where people are waiting on
an unfinished macadam road for a boat to
take us to the ship. This proves to be
another two-hour wait, and there are no
tents to shelter us from the hot sun.

It is confirmed that we are going to
Cyprus, for which I am grateful, as that is
nearer than Turkey. I call Jouhaina to tell
her that I’m about to board. It has now
been 12 hours. She’s shocked it has taken
this long. I also call my friend Jack
Deegan [the Rev. John E. Deegan,
our Augustinian house at Villanova.

One of the Marines explains the delay.
It has to do with the ship getting the
proper ballast. I admittedly don’t under-
stand the hydrodynamics. Around 8 p.m.,
we hear a loud noise signaling an amphibi-
ous boat coming ashore.

As we move toward the boat, suddenly
we find ourselves on a steep gravel incline.
The Marines are trying to keep things
orderly, but people are anxious to board.
Mothers are pushing the baby strollers but
the strollers soon grind to a halt, their
wheels stuck in sand and gravel. The fear
on the faces of the mothers is palpable.
The Marines come to the rescue, helping
to carry the children and strollers. For the
life of me, I don’t know why someone
hasn’t collapsed or died by now.

The boat is like the ones you see in
films of the Normandy landing. The flap is
put down at the water’s edge, and people
scramble aboard. I step in the surf, hoping
that my feet don’t get soaked. There is no
place to sit, so people stand or plop on the
life preservers strewn on the deck. The
ride is rough, and a medic offers seasick-
ness pills. The journey takes half an hour;
the boat pulls right into the bowels of the
ship that will take us to Cyprus.

The captain of the USS Nashville and
his crew formally welcome us. Once again
we are processed, and our names checked
off. My back and legs are killing me. I
think of the gym I’ve joined, and thank
God I’ve been doing leg and back exercises
these past few months.

I make my way to the main deck,
where I tell a sailor that I am very
tired and need a place to sit. He gives me some
water, and tells me chairs and cots are
available along the deck. I go to where they
are being set up, but they’re not yet
ready. I return, and the same sailor asks me
how I made out. I tell him they’re not yet
ready, so he escorts me to the top deck,
where he says it is cooler. He finds me a
chair and at last, I am able to sit. A few
minutes later, he brings me a plum, an
orange and two cookies. I am amazed by
the kindness and solicitude shown by
these young Navy and Marine personnel.

The deck is filling up and people are
being given cots and mattresses. I can see
the lights of Beirut in the distance. I am
offered a mattress, which I thankfully
accept. I never thought being able to lie
down would feel so good. Every muscle in
my body aches. Another sailor offers a
blanket. Although it is still very hot, I
keep it just in case. I use another blanket
and my sweater as a pillow and fall
asleep, exhausted.

I don’t know what time the ship finally
pulls out, but I think it is well past mid-
night. We are told that the trip will take
12 hours. I am awakened by the wind, and
pull the blanket tight. My thoughts turn
to the ancients who lived on these waters,
and also to St. Paul, who was shipwrecked
off Malta. The Mediterranean can be quite
cruel and dangerous. Even though I am on
a U.S. Navy ship, I wonder if anyone
might want to lob a missile at the ship to
create an international incident (casus
belli). Such are the wild thoughts that go
through one’s mind at times like this.

July 22, Saturday. I awaken around
6 a.m. feeling better, but very dirty. I also feel
sweaty and clammy. Breakfast is being served
in the packed galley. I negotiate around the
crowd and pick up some eggs, pancakes and
coffee and go to the upper deck. I find a
place to eat, leaning on some type of
machinery. The captain announces that the
ship is host to 1,119 evacuees. Once the ship
docks at Limassol, it will ready itself to
return to Beirut for another pickup.

All in all, it takes the ship over 24
hours to evacuate, maybe more. This sur-
prises me, although I don’t know why it
should, since I know nothing about the
logistics involved. My experience with the
sailors and Marines on the ship has been
excellent. They are accommodating,
polite and friendly. My thoughts turn
Villanova’s Navy [NROTC] program, and
I ask one of the sailors if there is anyone on
board from Villanova. “No, sir,” he
replies, “The Navy is big.” He volunteers
that if people want to thank the Navy,
they should write to the government to
tell them of their positive experience.
“When budget cuts are proposed, it’s
always the Navy that’s cut,” he said.

I resolve that whenever I hear of peo-
ple being evacuated due to some natural
or man-made disaster, I will be more
empathetic, having now undergone a simi-
lar experience. But we are lucky, despite
our difficulties. We have resources and
options. What about the tens of thousands
of Lebanese refugees who don’t have a
government to look after them or provide
basic necessities? On BBC and CNN, we
hear the air raid sirens going off in Haifa,
warning Israelis to go to their bomb shel-
ters. There are no such shelters or sirens
over Beirut or the cities of Sidon and Tyre,
where the bombardment and destruction
are hundreds of times worse than in Israel.

The inequities of war are innumerable.
Affluent people from the Beirut suburbs
and south Lebanon have streamed to the
north, either to seaside resorts or to
mountain ski resorts. Meanwhile, the
poor and those who have had the roads
to their villages cut are isolated. Nothing
can move. If anyone dares to try the
mountain roads to escape, they run the
risk of being bombed. And indeed, many
have been killed trying to flee. Every-
thing is justified in war. People are told to
flee, but if they do, they risk being killed.
“Collateral damage” it’s called.
How can the actions of one leader, Hassan Nasrallah, who was not part of the government and never elected to a government office, affect the life and death of a country of 4 million people by plunging it into war? What is the strategy behind this Israeli offensive? Is it collective punishment of all Lebanese, regardless of affiliation or support for Hezbollah? Why are grain silos, telecommunications, roads and bridges throughout the country being knocked out and destroyed? The Israeli government emphasizes that Israel wants the Lebanese government to be strengthened so it can to take control of the south and disarm Hezbollah. But if the army is attacked and the country is destroyed, how can that happen?

The wars of the Middle East seem to be about borders. Not only is Syria's border with Lebanon undefined, but also Israel's border with Lebanon. Both these issues await a peace agreement which, at this point, seems farther and farther away.

Will the stalemate over Hezbollah's arms be broken with this war? History shows that war has never solved anything in this region. In 1982, Israel invaded Lebanon to expel the Palestine Liberation Organization, and created a "buffer" zone in the south before it finally withdrew, under the pressure of Hezbollah, in May 2000. Without a political solution, there will be no peace. The children born during that occupation are now the Hezbollah and Israeli soldiers fighting today. When will this cycle of violence end? How can peace be achieved?

As Pope Paul VI has famously stated, "There can be no peace without justice." Israel, Syria, Lebanon and the other Arab countries must enter into negotiations to achieve a peace agreement. Iran must also be included.

In return, Israel must negotiate with Syria the return of the Golan Heights and with the Palestinians over Gaza and the West Bank to form a viable Palestinian state. The international community must support and strengthen the Lebanese government and the Palestinian Authority to undermine the appeal of the military wings of Hamas and Hezbollah.

As we leave the USS Nashville, once again I am struck by the ship's hospitality. Soon, I take my turn in yet another line to enter the terminal at Limassol. We are greeted by the Cypriot Red Cross, which has prepared snacks and toys for the children.

Inside, chaos reigns anew. There are only three people with computers to process over a thousand people. Everyone seems to be pushing and shoving, and children are crying. Finally someone from the embassy attempts to create order. The Marines are brought in, and yellow tape is tied to chairs to make three lines.
Focus on Lebanon

He doesn’t know anything, either. He makes some phone calls and tells me that an announcement will be made in 20 minutes to a half hour. I go back to the departure gates but there is so much noise that I can’t hear anything. Alarm again sets in, and I think that I’ve missed the flight. Why couldn’t they have told us the proper gate? I stand in the main concourse hoping to see someone go by. I’m lucky. One of the people who was with me on the bus comes by with an American official and says they are boarding; where have I been?

It is now approximately 4 a.m. and we board a military transport plane for Ramstein, Germany. There are canvas seats along the side and a double row down the center. Earplugs are handed out to ward off the considerable noise. Children sleep on the floor. The airmen pass out sandwiches and water and do their best to make us feel comfortable.

The flight to Germany takes five hours. When we land, the Red Cross, other service personnel and volunteers greet us. The welcome is warm and lunch is provided. Phone cards are distributed to call home. A four-hour layover stretches into eight due to mechanical trouble. The American ambassador to Germany and his entourage pay a visit.

July 25, Tuesday. The layover is very organized, and around 4:30 p.m. we board for the nine-hour flight to McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey. The plane arrives at 7 p.m., and my friends Louise Fitzpatrick [M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor at Villanova’s College of Nursing] and Jack Deegan are waiting for me. It is wonderful to be back home, but my heart and mind are still with the people of Lebanon, who are suffering a terrible tragedy with no end in sight.

Some final reflections. As this entry is being written [August 5], the war in Lebanon has expanded to the Christian heartland. The people in that area are baffled as to why they are being hit, since they do not support Hezbollah and there are no Hezbollah forces there. Over a million Lebanese are now refugees, a quarter of the population. Some 100,000 are being housed in schools. Over 700 Lebanese, mostly civilians, have been killed. There are another 3,125 injured, a third of whom, according to UNICEF, are children. It is not known how many Hezbollah fighters have been killed. On the Israeli side, 58 soldiers and at least 36 civilians have been killed. Lebanon has been reduced to rubble; power plants, houses, hospitals, schools and the infrastructure have been destroyed. Over 71 bridges have been bombed.

The Israeli destruction of the Jiyeh thermal power station on the southern coast has caused the greatest environmental damage in the history of the eastern basin of the Mediterranean. The facility is still burning after three weeks.

Medicines and humanitarian aid cannot get through to the refugees and those trapped in their villages. Gasoline is rationed. The Israeli naval blockade, strikes against roadways and the airport, and the destruction of the main north-south coastal highway have severed Lebanon from the rest of the world. Meanwhile, the battle continues unabated, as Hezbollah-launched rockets and missiles rain down on Israel.

Few will argue that Israel does not have the right to defend itself—but the question is whether destroying Lebanon and killing hundreds of trapped, terrorized civilians is justified in the cause of defense. Hezbollah’s actions do not justify Israel’s targeting of civilians in Lebanon. Failure to distinguish between civilians and combatants can be judged as a war crime, no matter which side does it.

Lebanon had only recently recovered from its long civil war and instability. A national dialogue was taking place between the various factions, including Hezbollah, with the goal of getting Hezbollah to disarm its militia. Now, the longer this war goes on, the more Lebanon’s uniqueness in the region will be undermined.

During his visit to Lebanon in 1997, Pope John Paul II said that he wished “to declare before the world the importance of Lebanon and its historical mission... A country of many religious faiths, Lebanon has shown that these different faiths can live together in peace, brotherhood and cooperation.”

This war will destroy all of that. Lebanese Christians will emigrate to Canada, the United States, Australia and any other Western country that will take them. The situation may parallel or exceed what happened at the end of the civil war, when 15,000 Lebanese—mostly educated young people, a majority of them Christian—departed every month.

If Hezbollah emerges strengthened, the balance of power in Lebanon will shift. Hezbollah’s agenda is to create an Islamic state on the model of Iran. It says that it will do so “not by force or violence but by peaceful political action... If Islam becomes the choice of the majority then we will apply it, if not, we will continue to coexist and discuss till we reach correct beliefs.”

There is little evidence that Iran is orchestrating Hezbollah’s actions or that Iran is directly coordinating steady attacks on Israeli targets. Conversely, there is speculation that in this war, Israel is acting as the United States’ proxy in fighting Iran through Hezbollah.

In the long term, this conflict has the potential of threatening the so-called moderate Arab regimes of Jordan and Egypt by exacerbating tensions between Shi’a and Sunni Muslims. Along with the hands-off policy the United States has displayed in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and its disastrous policies in Iraq that have brought that country to the brink of civil war, the war in Lebanon will strengthen radical hard-liners everywhere.

The War Brought Closer to Home

Lebanese Students Share Thoughts on Their Homeland

By Michael Nataro ’06 A&S, ’08 G.S.

Anyone who knows anything about Lebanon should know that this small nation is comprised of 17 religious sects. What one may not understand, however, is that within these denominations, there can be a spectrum of political beliefs.

Two Lebanese members of the Villanova University community reflect these different views. Amal Kabalan is a 22-year-old graduate student in electrical engineering. From greater Beirut, she is a Shi’ite Muslim, one of the largest sects in Lebanon. Richard Kheir ’06 G.S., who earned his master’s degree in computer science and interned in Villanova’s Office of Communication and Public Affairs, now works in the computer science department. Also from greater Beirut, he is a Maronite Catholic, the group that traditionally held power in the country but now is a minority.

Certainly, in recent history, Lebanon has not been without strife, with the most recent conflict coming last summer between Israel and Hezbollah. With its powerful Shi’ite militia, Hezbollah is based primarily in the south of Lebanon and acts autonomously from the Lebanese government.

Both Kheir and Kabalan were in the United States during the recent war, but their homeland and family were on their minds.

Kheir’s family lives not far from the Beirut airport, which was severely bombed. He noted, “In the beginning, I would call two or three times per day to make sure my family was all right, but the phone lines were down for much of the time. My brother fled up into the mountains to live with my aunt, a cloistered nun. My parents had to stay to make sure that refugees didn’t occupy our house.” He recalled hearing from his family that “There was no gas to go anywhere, no power, and the stores were closed, so bread was scarce. My mother and father just sat in the house and waited.”

Kabalan’s family was not displaced from their home in Beirut, but the sound of the bombs had a great effect on her sister. “She is afraid to sleep alone now,” Kabalan said. “My family spent the first three days of the conflict in the basement for safety.”

When asked if she agrees with Hezbollah, Kabalan made three points. “First, Israel needs to evacuate the Shebba Farms,” she noted, referring to a small tract of land situated between three countries. It is inhabited by Lebanese, occupied by Israel but viewed as Syrian by the United Nations. “Second,” she added, “Israel needs to free Lebanese political prisoners in Israeli jails; and third, Israel needs to provide a map of all the land mines planted in the south of Lebanon during its 18-year occupation. I will be completely satisfied if these three points are achieved.”

Kheir cited a growing trend of Christian support for Hezbollah, even though it is a Shi’ite militia. “Many Christians feel the need to at least recognize that Hezbollah speaks for a great many Lebanese citizens. These Christians see their support as a step toward national unity, something that has never been realized in Lebanon,” he said. “All religious sects in Lebanon must be justly represented but ultimately identify themselves as ‘Lebanese’ for the purpose of national unity.”

Kabalan recognized the end of this summer’s war as a stalemate, as opposed to the complete victory for Hezbollah claimed by its leader, Hassan Nasrallah. “No one won that war; both of them lost because people suffered. Ultimately, no goals were achieved,” she said. “Nasrallah admitted that he miscalculated Israel’s response and would not have kidnapped the Israeli soldiers had he known what would have happened.”

Kheir is pleased that the world community has responded with a substantial U.N. force in the south of Lebanon. “It’s a great step towards strengthening the legitimacy of the Lebanese army and its presence as peacekeepers,” he said. Kheir expressed his pessimism on what lies ahead. He realizes what must take place to have peace and stability. “People need to put aside their differences in Lebanon and think of a solution to reduce the national debt and prevent the ‘brain drain’ from getting worse,” he said in reference to the mass exodus of educated Lebanese.

True to her first name, Amal, which means “hope” in Arabic, Kabalan is optimistic about the future. She agrees with Kheir in respect to the need for joint political participation among all the sects. “Hezbollah should not lead but rather participate alongside all the other groups and stand for unity in Lebanon,” she said. “There needs to be no external forces influencing any of the political parties; there needs to be openness among everyone,” she said. “The U.N. involvement in the south is a good start to achieving a lasting peace.”

Israeli Students Offer Insights

By Michael Nataro ’06 A&S, ’08 G.S.

Ever since its creation by the United Nations in 1948, the state of Israel has never known a lasting peace. In its 58-year history, the country has participated in five major wars, has fended off Palestinian militancy and this past summer responded in force to Hezbollah’s kidnapping of Israeli soldiers.

Two sophomores in Villanova University’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences call Israel their home. Both Alona Cherkez, who is 23 years old, and Dana Tartarzy, who is 22,
Focus on Lebanon

Counting My Blessings

BY HABIB ESTEPHAN '06 E.E., '08 M.E.E.,
AS TOLD TO MICHAEL NATARO '06 A&S, '08 G.S.

There’s a commonly held perception that our world is now microcosmic, with 24-hour “breaking news,” globalized markets, cell phones, satellite communication and the ability to reach almost anywhere on the map in less than a day. Yet, when we witness a war report on television or read about it in a newspaper, we only can sympathize with those involved and can choose to neutralize any emotion and isolate ourselves from the horrors taking place.

Many Americans surely vocalized such sentiments during the month-long war in Lebanon this past summer, a war that claimed more than 1,000 lives and displaced nearly a million people. For Americans, one of our first reactions might have been “Thank God my family is safe here in the United States, and not underneath the Israeli bombs or the Hezbollah rockets.”

Sentiments of community and solidarity are ever-present at Villanova University, where we are called upon by our Augustinian and Catholic heritage to empathize with the oppressed and the suffering. However, this particular conflict elicited often conflicting images and feelings that you might not have expected. At Villanova, where several students from Israel and Lebanon reside, they could only hope and pray for a swift resolution to the fighting to spare their families from catastrophe.

Habib Estephan ’06 E.E., ’08 M.E.E., now a graduate student at Villanova, was in his family’s home just north of Beirut when the hostilities began. Here is his story of how he made his way back to the United States.

—MN

For the past three years, I have been away from my native Lebanon and studying here in the United States, first as an undergraduate at Villanova University and now as a graduate student in electrical engineering. Last summer, I returned to Lebanon for a month-long visit with my family, whom I had not seen in almost two years. Little did I know that a war would cut my trip short. Little did I know that the Beirut airport would be bombed out and I would be stuck in Lebanon, unable to return to Villanova to continue my education.
Each Step of the Way

During the first week of the war, embassies were evacuating their foreign nationals on ferries from Beirut to Cyprus or Turkey. As I am not an American citizen, I could not accompany them. I had to find my own way out.

Fortunately, a friend of my mother knows a Jordanian woman who regularly travels by cab between Lebanon and Jordan and has been using the same driver for 15 years. I was told that there were cab drivers who, because of the wartime conditions, were now making that trip for upwards of $1,000. Some roads were impassable; they had already been bombed by the Israelis. I asked this driver, whose name was Needal, if he could drive me to Amman, Jordan, where I would, hopefully, be able to get back to the United States. Needal knew an open thoroughfare and would take me for $450. Three other people also would be making the trip and could share the costs. All things considered, my only option turned out to be a good one.

My next step was to make sure that Air France could transfer my ticket from Beirut to Amman. They agreed to this, free of charge, but added that I would have to be on standby from Amman to Paris. The Paris-to-Philadelphia segment was confirmed.

The next stroke of luck occurred when this same friend of my mother's arranged for me to stay with her relatives in Amman for two nights. They were Byzantine Orthodox, as I am, and were eager to help me. The situation seemed to be going in my favor.

We set out on July 25 at 3 p.m. The other passengers did not live far from my town, Jounieh, along the Mediterranean coast north of Beirut, so we were able to pick them up and get on the road immediately. We drove over the mountains through a region known as Mt. Lebanon, across the Beqaa Valley, then up the mountains to the Syrian border, about an hour and a half drive. When we reached the checkpoint, we were warmly welcomed by the Syrian border guards and cordially received by Syrian citizens who were handing out sandwiches and bottles of water to the Lebanese refugees.

Needal took me to meet my host family. Although it was late at night, they were awake and had prepared a meal. Before I partook of their hospitality, I arranged for Needal to pick me up in the morning to visit the Air France office to see if I could change my standby status. I also wanted to see Amman, a city I had not visited before. Because the next day would be my 22nd birthday, I thought it would be nice to do something fun. I bade him goodnight and returned to my hosts, with perfect Arab hospitality, made me feel welcome.

In the morning, my hosts served me a breakfast that rivaled in size the dinner. Later in the morning, Needal showed me Amman, a city modern yet traditional, before returning me to my hosts for dinner. After another wonderful meal, I thanked them for all they had done and arranged to go out with Needal that evening. At 7:30 p.m., he picked me up, then drove to his home to pick up his wife who would help me shop for a gift for my hosts. I found a lovely old-fashioned telephone I knew they would love. We then went to a restaurant with Jordanian cuisine, Arabic water pipes and Oriental music to celebrate my birthday.

The next morning, after I thanked my gracious hosts and presented them with the gift, Needal arrived at 5:30 a.m. to take me to the airport. While I was in the Air France office, he waited in case I did not make my flight. At exactly the cut-off time for confirmed status, a woman behind the counter handed me my ticket. She knew who I was immediately; my hostess’ wasta had pulled through for me! I ran outside and thanked Needal and paid him handsomely for all that he had done to help me. I went to my gate and boarded the plane. I had made it!

It was heart-wrenching to leave my family and friends in Lebanon under the circumstances of a war, especially when, at the time, there seemed to be no end in sight.

—Habib Estephan ’06 E.E., ’08 M.E.E., who is from Jounieh, Lebanon
The Battle for Peace: A Frontline Vision of America’s Power and Purpose
BY GEN. ANTHONY C. ZINNI, USMC (RET.)
‘65 VSB AND TONY KOLTZ
PALGRAVE MACMILLAN
233 PP., HARDCOVER
$24.95

Before he publicly vocalized his objections to the United States going to war in Iraq, Gen. Anthony C. Zinni, USMC (Ret.) ‘65 VSB, with 40 years of service in the U.S. military, had become known as “the warrior for peace.” That was in fact the title of my interview with him in the Summer 1998 Villanova Magazine. In his latest book, The Battle for Peace, Zinni remains constant in his opinion about the necessity for peace in the Middle East and why the United States should not have gone to war in Iraq.

Zinni’s position and views are not surprising. Consider his personal history. As a young officer in charge of leading a platoon in Vietnam and seeing the raw effects of battle, he vowed to tell the truth at all costs. For his views in his latest book, Zinni draws on his experience as a military leader who spent more than 20 years in the Middle East. He served as commander in chief of the United States Central Command (CENTCOM) and later as the U.S. special envoy for peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian people (he was advisor to then-Secretary of State Colin L. Powell and knows most of the Mideast’s leaders on a personal level.) So, Zinni is more than qualified to speak on the region’s culture and history. Before committing himself to record in the book, Zinni recommended that the U.S. not go to war in Iraq. The former Villanova University finance major outlined his position and reasons in a talk he gave on campus in November 2003 as part of the Ethics Program Lecture Series on war and terrorism. He titled his talk “The Search for Middle East Peace: The Role of Just War Principles.”

In August 1997, at the very start of his command at CENTCOM, Zinni proposed a six-point strategic program to then-Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen. The Marine Corps general suggested a more balanced approach to the wide range of evolving issues in that region and recommended that the United States not concentrate on Iraq and its leader, Saddam Hussein. When Zinni proposed the program to Cohen and other senior members of Congress, he said he was told “to mind my business—to stay out of policy and stick to execution.” Even before his earlier book Battle Ready (2005) was published, Zinni said he was not popular in Washington.

Ethical decisions are not popular, according to Zinni. “The real threats do not come from military forces or violent attacks; they do not come from a nation-state or hostile non-state entity; they do not derive from an ideology (not even from a radical, West-hating, violent brand of Islam),” Zinni writes. “The real threats come from instability. Instability and the chaos it generates can spark large and dangerous changes anywhere they land.” He adds, “Instability-driven changes from around the world are going to wash onto our shores. No one can tell right now what these changes will be, how they will affect us or how bad they will be. Yet it’s certain that some of the changes will be significant and affect us. Our near future is not going to be as good as we would like to think.”

Maintaining peace is indeed a battle, the reader concludes. As Zinni states, “Americans have to realize that we can no longer thrive in isolation from an unstable world.” He writes of the officials in Washington, the so-called planners who envisioned the invasion of Iraq, as people who saw it through their own narrow and simplistic lens. They were not looking ahead at the possible aftermath. They were not looking through the lens of experience. Zinni, on the other hand, writes from his vast storehouse of experience as a high-ranking military official and as a statesman.

When he spoke to Villanovans at the Ethics Program Lecture Series on war and terrorism in November 2003, Gen. Anthony C. Zinni, USMC (Ret.) ‘65 VSB outlined his views on just war principles as applied to the Middle East.
This latest book is part of Tom Clancy's nonfiction “Commanders” series and follows up on Battle Ready (by Clancy, Zinni and Tony Koltz). The Battle for Peace should attract readers interested in military leaders and the Marine Corps, those who wish to expand their knowledge of policy and strategies, and the growing number of Americans who are asking questions about why we went to war with Iraq and why our country remains at war.

—Reviewed by Irene Burgo

Cybernetica
By Michael J. Cavallaro ’97 A&S
Arcanum Books
468 pp., paperback
$15.95

In this sci-fi book, Michael J. Cavallaro ’97 A&S tackles issues of privacy, corruption and high technology in an intriguing, cautionary tale. His futuristic society is plugged into a neuro-network that has control over behavior in exchange for greater everyday convenience. This global power center is the city of Cybernetica; its brain-to-computer interface system is known as sublimation.

Jake, the protagonist, due to a medical complication, is not able to have this “mind control” procedure done and therefore lives outside the system. He is hired by the controlling corporation to do some spy work for them, but quickly comes to suspect that all is not what it seems to be, and so goes rogue in an attempt to find the truth.

In a publicity Q&A for his debut novel, Cavallaro stated that his inspiration for Cybernetica came from reading a list of the world’s top economic entities. What specifically attracted his attention, he stated, was: “Of the top 100 on the list, 51 of them were corporations. That’s an alarming number when you consider the present climate of things, but even more so when you put those numbers in their proper context. For example, General Motors has more money than the entire country of Greece.”

Cybernetica is an interesting blend of George Orwell’s 1984, Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451; and the works of William Gibson, such as Neuromancer and Count Zero. Like 1984 and Fahrenheit 451, his tale warns of a controlling entity that has gotten far too powerful and needs to be fought against. Similar to Gibson’s works but markedly different from 1984 and Fahrenheit 451 is the fact that the controlling entities are large corporations and not governments. Cavallaro, like Gibson, explores a world where governments have been reduced to figureheads, and corporations employ private armies to enforce their will. Also similar to Gibson is the fact that the story follows a number of active and efficient protagonists whose tales interweave and culminate in a common goal.

While background-heavy early on, the book works up to a frenzied pace as the protagonists race to prevent a war and neutralize the oppressive corporation behind it.

After growing up in Queens and Long Island, N.Y., Cavallaro studied English and education at Villanova University. Following graduation, he gained experience as a writer at a large public relations firm, as an editor at HarperCollins Publishers and as a freelance writer.

—Reviewed by Andrew Sheehan ’06 A&S
Class Notes

Life Changed a Year Ago

The following letter from Katie Scanlon Leblanc ’84 VSB tells of her parish’s efforts to assist families through the Center of Jesus the Lord in New Orleans. This Catholic charismatic retreat center and worshiping community is led by the Rev. John Capuci, a priest from Boston. Leblanc is director of the Youth Ministry Program for Holy Family Parish in Amesbury, Mass.

In August a year ago, life changed for so many. At the time, we did not know who they were. We saw only horror stories on television, and visions of those on roof tops. In the last year, since Katrina, they have become part of our lives. At first, we all wanted to help “save them” from this disaster. We quickly found out that that was not the case. Many and most hurtled insurance, or lack of that, and getting supplies to fix up what was left of their homes.

In the midst of redlining normal, we came to know 12 families through a personal contact, a priest who is stationed in New Orleans. We listened to their struggles and at times found it difficult to not do anything. They were at a standstill with the government, insurance companies, contractors (or lack of them). We listened. Sometimes all they asked was for prayers for their families...too many living under one roof...depressed spouses, parents and children. Many times we did nothing but pray for our new friends, those survivors from New Orleans whom we had previously only known from the TV and newspapers.

So here we are a year later—a few trips to New Orleans to help our new friends, but all in all, not making much of a difference in the big picture. In a year, we are still here with our new friends, waiting with them to make a difference. They wait for the insurance claims; we wait with them. They wait to exit their FEMA trailer; we wait with them. They wait to re-enter their destroyed home; we try to help them, if we can, rebuild it. For many who help, it means traveling down to New Orleans to install drywall and clean up. For others, it means sending furniture from our homes to theirs, or sending a gift card down to New Orleans to install drywall and clean up. For others, it means sending furniture from our homes to theirs, or sending a gift card.

In the past year, Holy Family has tried to wait, pray, work, comfort, support and be there for more than 12 families from the Rev. John Capuci’s community in New Orleans. It is not over. The rebuilding has just begun. The marathon has just started, but many are saying enough with Katrina. But life is about the marathon. We are here. Life has changed for our friends. But if we think of our own lives, maybe they have changed, too. Waiting, working, supporting, comforting, praying; these are things we try to do on a daily basis for ourselves. Granted, the situation is different, but we are changed, as our new friends’ lives have changed.

For those who would like to help in this marathon of rebuilding, we do have things you can do. Pray...call to find a specific family to pray for...we have 12 of them. Support...we still have families that would love to have a $25 gift certificate with your note attached. For other ways of supporting, we have a long list. Call us or e-mail—you can decide how you would like to be involved. Maybe it’s even coming down in November with a group to install drywall and clean up homes.

The rest is up to you. Our mission is small, but we would like to continue to help the families we met. For a list of those with the greatest need, please contact us.

Contact Katie Scanlon LeBlanc ’84 VSB by e-mail at hfyouth@comcast.net or by phone at (978) 388-3477. Donna Connell Ford ’87 A&S is also assisting the parish in this effort. Contact her by e-mail at dford37@comcast.net or by phone at (978) 686-1946.

1940s

Clifford J. Choquette ’40 A&S, Edu. received the Chelsmford (Mass.) Historic Society’s annual Guardian Award for outstanding service to the history, heritage and citizens of this Merrimack Valley town. Particularly noted was his longtime devotion to the Chelmsford Public Library. He organized its genealogy department, becoming an expert on the early settlers and giving lectures on searching for family roots. His interest in history included gathering materials on the Army 70th Signal Air Warning Company, his World War II radar group on New Caledonia; these materials are now in the Library of Congress. Choquette continues to serve his community through his volunteering and historical research.

Class of 1942: 65th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

1950s

The Rev. Robert Doyle Wiesenbaugh, S.J., ’51 A&S, Gen. has joined the parish of Saint Raphael the Archangel in Raleigh, N.C., after serving in Potosi, Bolivia. Thomas C. Linahan ’52 A&S, Math., ’59 G.S., Math. in June celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary with his wife, Rosemary. Joining them for the festive gathering were their six children and grandparents of eight.

1960s

Victor M. Richel ’60 VSB, Eco. is vice chairman of Independence Community Bank. A 23-year member of Union County College’s board of trustees, he has served as chairman for a nearly a decade. The college honored him last fall by renaming its student commons on the Cranford, N.J., campus as the Victor M. Richel Student Commons. Richel, who serves on 16 other boards of New Jersey institutions, is a longtime resident of Berkeley Heights. He and his wife are the parents of three children and grandparents of eight.

Class of 1962: 45th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

1970s

Stephen J. Cabot, Esq., ’64 VSB, Eco. joined the Philadelphia law office of Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP as of counsel.

Class of 1970: 40th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

1980s

What Does VSB Mean?

With the renaming of the College of Commerce and Finance to the Villanova School of Business, Villanova Magazine will be using the abbreviation VSB with a business school graduate’s class year instead of C&F.

1990s

Herbert J. Davis, Ph.D., ’85 VSB, Eco. is vice president for South Asia, Middle East and Africa Affairs at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. He co-edited the book Management in India: Trends and Transition (2006, Response Books).

Class of 1990: 20th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

2000s

Class of 1997: 10th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

2010s

Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

2020s

Class of 2020: 4th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

Contact Katie Scanlon LeBlanc ’84 VSB by e-mail at hfyouth@comcast.net or by phone at (978) 388-3477. Donna Connell Ford ’87 A&S is also assisting the parish in this effort. Contact her by e-mail at dford37@comcast.net or by phone at (978) 686-1946.
1970s
Gregory J. Ricci, Esq., '71 A&S, Hist., ’75 G.S., Gen., a Harrisburg-based lawyer who manages a family-owned real estate business, was named to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank. A graduate of John Marshall Law School, Ricci has served as executive director and chairman of the Dauphin County General Authority and as senior vice president of operations for the United Way of the Capital Region.

Class of 1972: 35th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

Donald E. Lewis ’72 A&S, Pol. Sci. is senior vice president/partner in Wachovia’s wealth management group in Summit, N.J.

Kathleen M. Mulcahey ’73 Nur. has started a home-based business in Collingswood, N.J. Called R.N. in the House Tutoring Services, it helps graduate nurses who have failed multiple attempts at the NCLEX licensure exam. She is celebrating a 100 per cent success rate.

Philip Torian ’73 A&S, Engl. in February 2005 was appointed books and arts editor of The Weekly Standard in Washington, D.C. He was a Pulitzer Prize finalist for commentary and has been a Media Fellow annually since 1999 at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.


Susan S. Bank ’75 G.S., Sec. Couns. is a professional photographer from Portsmouth, Mass., who after taking up photography seriously nine years ago has become internationally recognized for her photo essays of Cuba’s countryside and the beaches in Salisbury, Mass. Her work has appeared in numerous publications and in area art galleries.

Linda A. Carrick, Ph.D., ’75 Nur. has joined the New Jersey-based Kennedy Health System as vice president for patient care services/chief nursing officer. She had been associate director of healthcare nursing administration and health leadership at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School and a consultant for Genesis HealthCare. A master’s and doctoral degree graduate of Penn, she is a Wharton J&J Nurse Executive Fellow at Penn.

Marcia Eichenaer Holdt ’76 A&S, Soc. was awarded a full scholarship to Seton Hall University to pursue a master’s degree in Judeo-Christian Studies. She has established a nonprofit organization, His Tender Mercies, to address global human rights issues for children.

Class of 1977: 30th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

John Merrigan ’78 A&S, Pol. Sci. was named head of insurance risk management solutions at PricewaterhouseCoopers in New York City.

1980s
William J. Bowhers ’80 E.E. completed his first year of teaching electrical engineering at Merrimack College, following 25 years in product development for the semiconductor test industry at Teradyne Inc.

Kevin Curley ’80 VSB, Bus. Adm. is chairman and CEO of the Dallas-based Curley Insurance Group, one of the largest independent insurance agencies in Texas. He notes that his company was named an Inc. Magazine 500 Company for 2005 (the 500 fastest growing companies in the United States).

Jeff Pfeifle ’80 VSB, Bus. Adm., president of J. Crew, has been named to the board of directors of the Christopher Reeve Foundation, whose mission is to find cures and treatments for spinal cord injury.

Gregory McGann, D.M.D., ’81 A&S, Bio. is a partner in a pediatric dental practice in Woodbury, N.J. He was recently named to the editorial board of Pediatric Dentistry and inducted into the Pierre Fauchard Academy, an international dental honor society.

Thomas E. Powers Jr., D.D.S., ’81 A&S, Gen., a candidate for a master’s degree in education at Xavier University in Cincinnati, is spearheading the effort to bring football back to Xavier, where it has not been played since 1973. He is head coach of the new club team that students formed and are funding.

Class of 1982: 25th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

William M. O’Neill ’83 VSB, Acc. is chief financial officer for Spartan Organization Inc. in Fort Washington, Pa.

Dr. Helen J. Speziale ’83 M.S.N. has been appointed associate vice president of academic affairs at College Misericordia in Dallas, Pa.

The Hon. Elizabeth Metzger, Esq., ’84 A&S, Engl. was appointed a circuit judge in Florida’s 19th Judicial Circuit.

Tim Allen ’85 A&S, Pol. Sci., executive vice president of sales and marketing at ATX Communications in King of Prussia, Pa., received the 2006 Ethos Award from the Alpha Rho chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, Villanova University’s chapter of the National Communication Association honor society for communication studies. Allen delivered the keynote address at the recent induction and dinner.

Edward J. DeMarco Jr., Esq., ’85 VSB, Acc. in September joined The Risk Management Association in Philadelphia as general counsel and vice chair of the strategic planning committee. He had been a partner in the law firm of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP in Philadelphia.

Donald J. Detweiler, Esq., ’86 A&S, Eco. joined the Wilmington, Del., office of the international law firm of Greenberg Trauig, LLP as a shareholder in the business reorganization and bankruptcy department.

Class of 1987: 20th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

Navy Cmdr. Rich Haidvogel ’87 A&S, Comp. Sci. is stationed in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, as commanding officer of the USS Reuben James. The guided missile frigate was featured in several films based on Tom Clancy’s novels.

Matthew J. Holden, Esq., ’87 A&S, Psy. was promoted to assistant general counsel at Lowe’s Companies, Inc., the home improvement Fortune 50 company headquartered in Mooresville, N.C.

Patricia A. LaMotta ’88 VSB, Eco. is an investment officer at PNC Wealth Management in Newtown Square, Pa.

The Rev. Bernard C. Scianna, O.S.A., Ph.D., ’87 A&S, Hist. headmaster of Cascia Hall Preparatory School in Tulsa, Okla., receives his doctoral hood from his friend and mentor, the Rev. David L. Brecht, O.S.A. Father Scianna earned his Ph.D. in education from the University of Oklahoma and did his dissertation on how Cascia Hall has put the Augustinian philosophy into practice.


Richard Battista, M.D., ’89 A&S, Bio., a member of the Pennsylvania-based OAA Orthopaedic Specialists’ Hand and Upper Extremities Institute, last February received a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal. The Gold Star honored his development and implementation of a computer-based template for surgical scheduling, case management and other hospital functions at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. A Navy lieutenant commander at the time, he was assistant department head, upper extremity and hand surgery department and orthopaedics surgery department (from July 2002 to July 2004).

Dr. Meaghan Cronin ’89 A&S, Engl. associate professor of English at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, N.H., was awarded the 2006 New Hampshire College Excellence in Education Award for Outstanding Teaching in Postsecondary Education. “The joy I feel in the classroom is both a visceral and intellectual feeling,” she noted.

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**Class Notes Submission Form**

Have you received an honor, award or promotion? Did you earn another degree, get married or have a baby? Submit this Class Notes form via fax to (610) 519-7583 or mail to Editor-in-Chief, Villanova Magazine, Villanova University, Alumni House, 800 Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085. Please send photos by mail or e-mail digital photos to alumni@villanova.edu. Digital photos should be jpeg or tiff format that are 300 dpi and preferably at least 3 x 5 inches.

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**1990s**

Catherine Ferrante ’89 VSB, Bus. Adm., was named vice president, delegation human resources and administrative services, at Saint-Gobain Corp. in Valley Forge, Pa.

Frederick Norris ’89 A&S, Comm. was promoted to vice president, Southeast region advertising sales, in the Atlanta office of Discovery Networks U.S.

James P. Quinlan ’89 VSB, Bus. Adm., a partner with Smart and Associates, LLP and president of Smart Financial Advisors, LLC in Wayne, Pa., has been elected to the board of directors of the Catholic Leadership Institute in Malvern.

David Rutledge ’89 G.S., Couns./Hum. Rel. is a full-time career counselor at Octorara Area High School in Strasburg, Pa., and also is an adjunct professor of psychology at Arcadia University in suburban Philadelphia.

Keith Schuster ’89 A&S, Gen. was named vice president of product management at Burr Wölff L.P. in Houston. The firm is a nationwide, full-service provider of state and local tax reduction solutions.

**1990s**

Michael Busenkell, Esq., ’90 VSB, Acct. joined the Wilmington, Del., law office of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott LLC as a member. His practice focuses on Chapter 11 business restructuring.

Lt. Cmdr. Michael Cavallaro, Esq., ’90 A&S, Hist. is the assistant legal officer at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn. He holds a master’s degree in national security and strategic studies from the Naval War College.

Scott Frisch, C.P.A., ’90 VSB, Acct. was named chief financial officer at the Boston-based AARP Financial Inc., which oversees AARP-endorsed financial services and offerings.

Marine Corps Maj. Jeff Riley ’90 A&S, Hist. is on active duty with the Marine Corps field historian in Iraq’s Al Anbar province. Riley will conduct oral history interviews with members of the Marine Expeditionary Force and collect historically significant documents and artifacts relating to the Corps’ history. He is on leave from Associates of Crystal Cary, Va., where he is a staff policy analyst.

Kevin Baxter ’91 A&S, Engl.; Mark Godley ’91 VSB, Mkt.; and Keith Dunnigan ’91 A&S, Math. in August climbed Mount Olympus to benefit Big City Mountaineers, a nonprofit organization whose volunteers guide urban teens-agers on wilderness experiences.

**Class of 1992: 15th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007**

Jennifer Allard ’92 A&S, Soc. has assumed additional responsibilities as district dairy marketing manager for Cargill Inc. in Albany, N.Y.

Sesario Alonzo ’93 A&S, Math. is senior software engineer at Proformance Inc. in Spring, Texas. He, his wife and their two sons relocated from Wilmington, Del.

Susan Downey Graybill ’93 M.S.N. is a faculty member at the Lancaster General College of Nursing & Health Sciences in Lancaster, Pa. She was elected to the leadership succession committee of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Michael Zarrilli ’93 VSB, Acct. was named director, business development, mobile, at The Weather Channel Interactive in Atlanta.

Stephen J. Byrne ’91 A&S, Comp. Sci. in June became assistant vice president and chief architect for information technology at Harleysville (Pa.) Insurance.

John G. Emling ’91 A&S, Pol. Sci. was named by President George W. Bush as special assistant to the president for legislative affairs. Emling previously was deputy assistant secretary for legislative affairs for tax and budget at the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Robert Kramer ’91 M.E.E. was named senior vice president of marketing and strategic development at Savi Technology, a subsidiary of Lockheed Martin, in Sunnyvale, Calif. He holds an M.B.A. degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Michael Skurecki ’91 U.C., Bus. Adm. in August was awarded his fifth James S. Cogwell Security Achievement Award from the Defense Security Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Defense. At Northrop Grumman in West Conshohocken, Pa., where he has worked for 33 years, among his many responsibilities are serving as facility security officer.

Scott Strang ’91 E.E. joined Powerhold Inc. in Middleton, Conn., as director of sales for North America. The company makes specialty products for automotive and aerospace manufacturing.

*Villanova University reserves complete editorial rights to all content submitted for Class Notes, and posts and publishes listings as space permits.*
Tredyffrin Township in Chester County, Pa.

Alison Fee Crane, Esq., '95 A&S, Engl./Hist., was elected to partnership in the San Francisco law firm of Blitch, Trenary, Kristoff, Brown & Cohn. She is a private banking associate at Credit Suisse in New York City.

Dr. Kristen Langheld Krebs '96 A&S, Psy., in June 2005 received her doctorate in industrial/organizational psychology from DePaul University. She is manager, learning design and advancement, at TAP Pharmaceutical Products Inc. in Lake Forest, Ill.

Suzanne Salerno '96 VSB, Fin., is director of donor development at the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund in Boston. She had been campaign manager at the WGBH Educational Foundation, also in Boston.

Class of 1997: 10th Reunion, June 8-10, 2007

Amy Fortin '97 A&S, Spanish Lang./Lit., received a Fulbright Scholar grant to study and travel in Argentina and Uruguay. In May she earned a master’s degree in Spanish from Central Connecticut State University.

Chad M.S. Steel '97 Comp. Eng., '99 G.S., Comp. Eng., a candidate for a doctorate in computer science at Virginia Tech, has published a book on computer forensics. His wife, Dr. Laura Szumanesski Steel '97 A&S, Hist./Theol., in May 2005 received a Ph.D. in history from Temple University. Both work for the U.S. government.

Daniel Williams, Ph.D., '97 A&S, Psy., in June received his doctorate in clinical psychology from the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology. He is a staff therapist at The Trauma Center in Brookline, Mass., a nonprofit agency dedicated to helping individuals, families and communities heal from psychological trauma.


Doug Copeland '98 A&S, Comp. Prog., is project developer at Navitas Energy, a wind power development company in Minneapolis.

Berlin Maposa '98 Nur., is principal nursing officer II (matron) at Kasane Primary Hospital in Botswana.

Laurie O’Hop Ardolino '99 G.S., Math. teaches fifth grade in the Haverford (Pa.) Township school district. She resides with her husband and their infant daughter in Chester Springs.

Andrew D. Fleisher '99 A&S, Pol. Sci. in August received a master’s degree in public administration from George Mason University.

Andrea Maresca '99 A&S, Soc., is a health policy associate for the National Association of State Medicaid Directors in Washington, D.C. She earned a master’s degree in public health and health policy, with honors, from The George Washington University.

Jennifer Martina '99 VSB, Fin., in August received an M.B.A. degree from Wake Forest University. She works at The Siegfried Group, LLP office in Charlotte, N.C.

Navy Lt. John Ryan '99 C.E., in June was awarded an M.B.A. degree from the Naval Postgraduate School. Now stationed in Newport, R.I., he will be transferred to Norfolk, Va., in January 2007.

Todd Thomas '99 A&S, Engl., in May received a master’s degree in city planning from Boston University.

J. Patrick Dougherty '00 A&S, Hon., '00 A&S, Chem., is a consultant at L.E.K. Consulting in Boston. In May, he was awarded an M.B.A. degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Raymond A. Franklin '01 A&S, Pol. Sci., played a major role in the research done for the ESPN College Football Encyclopedia: The Complete History of the Game.

Brian T. Harte '01 E.E., senior systems engineer at Lockheed Martin’s Maritime Systems & Sensors in Moorestown, N.J., was awarded a patent for a closed loop laser controller used in a hybrid cable TV fiber/coaxial transmitter.

Michael Mullette '01 VSB, Mkt., is regional manager for Sanofi Pasteur Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, Mass.

Class of 2002: Five-Year Reunion, October 5-7, 2007

Brian Ali, Esq., '02 A&S, Pol. Sci. in May received his J.D. degree from the Ralph R. Papitto School of Law at Roger Williams University. He is a private banking associate at Credit Suisse in New York City.

Lindsay Hawke Baran '02 A&S, Math., '02 A&S, Hon. was awarded a $25,000 TIAA-CREF fellowship to pursue a Ph.D. degree in business administration at the University of North Carolina Charlotte (UNCC), beginning last August. Her husband, Navy Lt. Ben Baran '02 A&S, Comm./Pol.Sci., is the internal communications manager in UNCC’s Office of Public Relations and Marketing.

Capt. Andrew S. Driscoll '02 VSB, Fin., is serving with the Army’s 27th Transportation Battalion in Tikrit, Iraq.

Lauren Schneider Robins, D.V.M., '02 A&S, Bio., a graduate of the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, is practicing at Cedar Lake Pet Clinic in Lake Elmo, Minn., where she focuses on small animal medicine and exotics.

Matt W. Strout '02 A&S, Comm./Spanish Lang./Lit., quality assurance manager at the WGBH Educational Foundation, also in Boston.
Carrie Schneider '98 A&S, Comm.
Marc Reed '96 VSB, Fin.
Julia Brennan '96 VSB, Acct.
Christine Gorgone, Esq., '95 A&S,
Maria H. Sanchez '93 VSB, Acct.

1980s-1990s

Shanna Kurek '03 A&S, Comm is a benefit analyst at PERS (Public Employees’ Retirement System of Mississippi) in Jackson, Miss.
Brandon O’Brien '04 VSB, Mkt. is a mortgage consultant at Diamond Lending Corp. in Paoli, Pa.
Brian Peach '04 Nur., who works at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, is earning an M.S.N. degree part-time at Villanova University’s College of Nursing.
Wade Vigna '05 VSB, Acct. was promoted to staff level II accountant at the Morristown, Nj. office of WithumSmith and Brown, an accounting and consulting firm.

Marriages 1980s-1990s

Kimberly A. Bouse '88 Nur. married John R. Bilott.
Daniel Blaney '92 C.E. married Indhira Figuereo.
Maria H. Sanchez '93 VSB, Acct. married John T. Jadach.
Julia Brennan '96 VSB, Acct. married Robert Camp.
Marc Reed '96 VSB, Fin. married Jennifer Caden.
Kelly Curtin '98 A&S, Gen. married Matthew McDow.
Carron Schmidt '98 A&S, Comm. married Russ Romberger Jr.
Jennifer Tindal '98 A&S, Comm. married Christopher Mans.

Kristin Jencius '99 VSB, Mgt. married Peter Price.
Mona Kahn '99 A&S, Comp. Sci. married Omid Entezari, M.D.
Jennifer Laffey '99 A&S, Psy. married Jeff Anderson.
Mark Pianielli '99 VSB, Fin. married Alyssa Nobile '01 A&S, Comm., '05 J.D.

2000s

Evelyn Emerson '00 VSB, Fin. married Neil Smalko.
Laura McClelland '00 VSB, Eco./Mkt. married Carl Nelson.
David Sherlock '00 VSB, Fin. married Susan Hansen '02 A&S, Comm.
Kevin Arch '01 VSB, Fin. married Rebecca Rahl '01 A&S, Comm.
Thomas Collins '01 VSB, Fin. married Bridget VonDocheren '01 A&S, Edu./Engl.
Matthew V. D’Angelo '01 C.E., '03 M.C.E. married Angela M. von Boecklin '01 VSB, Acct./Span.
Jeremy Davies '01 A&S, Hon., '01 A&S, Engl. married Ashley A. Tate '03 A&S, Hon., '03 A&S Engl.
Amy L. Drysdale '01 VSB, Acct. married Jeffrey C. Leer.
Jonathan Lyman '01 VSB, Acct., '03 M.B.A. married Alyssa McLaughlin '01 VSB, Fin.
David R. Menninger '01 E.E. married Julia C. Fischer.
Michael Mullette '01 VSB, Mkt. married Laura Marchetti '01 A&S, Hon.
Meg Sakowski '01 A&S, Comm. married Steve Oens.
Katrina Wawer '01 A&S, Pol. Sci. married Paul Kletzly.
Michael Bukowski '02 VSB, Fin./Mkt. married Jennifer Willie '02 VSB, Acct., '03 M.B.A.
Eriu Greco '02 A&S, Hist. married Charles Ridgeway Mulhy.
Amy Hilsenberg '02 A&S, Pol. Sci. married Matthew Clark.
Michael Madigan '02 VSB, Fin. married Karen Handzo '02 Nur.
Patrick Palomo '02 VSB, Fin. married Lauren Battista '02 Ch.E.
Brian Passeineau '02 VSB, Acct. married Erin Tammany '02 A&S, Engl., '06 G.S., Edu.

2010s

Michelle A. Sideo '02 A&S, Bio. married Jon F. Muller.
Shanna Kurek '03 A&S, Comm. married Steve Latham.
Christopher Moyer '03 Comp. Eng. married Kristen Hyland '04 A&S, Bio.
James Neagle '03 Comp. Eng. married Kristin Heisserer '03 VSB, Mkt.
Alex Pacanowski '03 M.E. married Kerry Whittemore '03 A&S, Bio., '03 A&S, Soc.
Brian Shields '03 A&S, Geog. married Aimee Deck '03 C.E.
Michelle DeSilets '04 Nur. married Rick Gallagher.
Navy Lt. Kathleen Kunkemoeller '04 Ch.E. married Lt. Christopher A. Galh.
Mark S. Prewitt '04 M.E. married Kerrin Meagher '04 A&S, Soc.
Jeremy Royal '05 G.S., Comm. married Priya Prakash '06 J.D.
Aaron Gorodetzky '06 J.D. married Ashley Sharbano '06 A&S, Comm.

Births 1980s

Robert F. Tyson Jr. '86 VSB, Bus., '89 J.D., twins, boy and girl.
Michael J. O’Connor '87 A&S, Comp. Sci., girl.
Thomas R. Packwood '87 VSB, Acct., boy.
Dawn Baran Timberlake '87 E.E., boy.
Kimberly Bouse Bilott '88 Nur., boy.
Kieran Conlon '89 VSB, Acct. and Katie Cowan Conlon '95 Nur., girl.
Kevin Rasch '89 A&S, Mod., Lang., boy.

1990s

Rachael Cavilleri Labriol '90 A&S, Gen., boy.
Charles Forcier '91 A&S, Comm., girl.
Bill Russo '91 VSB, Acct., girl.
Jennifer Girvin Martin '92 A&S, Gen., girl.

Manon Matthews Neal '93 A&S, Comm., girl.
Peter O’Hanlon '93 VSB, Fin., boy.
Stacy Campbell Rutherford '93 VSB, Mkt., boy.
Richard Jotz '94 VSB, Mkt., girl.
Laurel Ellis Kennedy '94 VSB, Mkt., boy.
Christine Ciganek Ruch '94 A&S, Soc., girl.
Stephen J. Burgo '95 C.E., '99 M.C.E., girl.
Alison Fee Crane '95 A&S, Engl./Hist., girl.
Karolyn Boyd Devaney '95 Nur., boy.
Lisa Pappagallo Ghezzi '95 VSB, Fin., boy.
Melissa Overbaugh Higgins '95 Nur., girl.
Jessica Barone Tulak '95 A&S, Psy., boy.
Lisa Dolan Allegretto '96 VSB, Mkt., girl.
Kristen Cirillo Ecklord '96 VSB, Mkt., girl.
Melissa Suprin Hynek '96 Ch.E., Dr. Kristen Langheld Krels '96 A&S, Psy., twins girls.
Sarah Neville Laird '96 VSB, Accet., girl.
Dan Schulz '96 C.E. and Susan Quinn Schultz '96 C.E., triplets, two girls, one boy.
Brian Flynn '97 VSB, Accet. and Leslie Abramson Flynn '98 VSB, Mkt., girl.
John Manza '97 VSB, Mkt., girl.
Elizabeth Vetrolo Bilodeau '98 VSB, Accet., boy.
Doug Copeland '98 A&S, Comp. Prog., boy.
Andrew Gutacker '98 M.E., boy.
Ann Weidenboerner Mallison '99 VBS, Fin., boy.
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Anthony Stowman ’98 VSB, Fin., girl.
Laurie O’Hop Ardolino ’99 G.S., Math., girl.
Christine Shirk Grillet ’99 VSB, Acct., boy.
Erin O’Toole Morgese ’99 G.S., Edu., boy.

2000s
Angela Maglio Panusky ’00 G.S., Psy., boy.
Sarah Wood Forit ’01 A&S, Comm., boy.
Ryan Halla ’02 C.E. and Kelsi McBrown Halla ’01 VSB, Fin., boy.
Michelle Sideco Muller ’02 A&S, Bio., boy.
Kieran Ahern ’05 A&S, Comm. and Christina Sambus Ahern ’05 VSB, Mkt., boy.

In Memoriam
1930s-1940s
William R. Menseck ’43 VSB, Eco., on July 27.
Charles T. Boyd ’44 VSB, Eco., on May 23.
Raymond W. Kasper ’47 Ch.E., on June 12.
John V. Ciotta ’48 VSB, Eco., on July 4.
Eugene J. Ruane ’48, VSB, Eco., on August 24.
Nicholas C. Foty ’49 E.E. on May 23.
John Francis Steinke ’49 M.E., on June 4.

1950s
Robert L. Cleary ’50 VSB, Eco., on August 26, 2005.
John Joseph Hagerty III ’52 VSB, Eco., on June 25.
Sister Mary Olga Felsmann, R.S.M., ’53 G.S., Arts, on July 16.
Joseph J. Jerry Jr. ’51 VSB, Eco., on August 5.
Edward J. Lis ’56 M.E., on August 8.

2010s
Bernard F. Steinfeh ’56 VSB, Eco., on May 23.
William Verna ’57 VSB, Eco., on May 29.
Richard W. Hoffman ’58 M.E., ’64 M.M.E., on June 16.

1960s
Charles J. Riley ’61, VSB, Fin., on August 22.
Francis Januzelli ’63 VSB, Fin., on June 19.
John Finnegan ’64 VSB, Eco., on July 7.
John McCabe ’64 C.E., on June 20.
Mary Louise Rosenberg Geisz ’65 G.S., Lib. Sci., on May 24 (widow of Edward Geisz, who had coached swimming at Villanova University).

1970s
Floris Magasiny ’74 G.S., Arts, on October 9, 2005.
Peggy Suckle ’75 G.S., Lib. Sci., on May 28.
Jay Paul Stroh ’77 M.E., on August 13.

1980s
Ronald J. Dedalis ’83 M.E., on April 12.
Thomas Boylon ’87 A&S, Soc., on July 5.

1990s-2000s
Jeanne L. Cordaro Newton ’87 VSB, Acid., on July 16.
Linda Bathtarian Demarest ’89 VSB, Fin., on August 21.

Memorial Tribute
Eugene J. Ruane ’48 VSB, who for more than 40 years served as director of public relations and spokesman for his alma mater, died on August 24 at age 85.
A resident of Westtown Township, Chester County, Pa., Ruane was born in the small borough of Hawley. Raised during the Depression, he became the first in his family to go to college when his parents took out a mortgage to pay the tuition. He literally grew up with Villanova, which was an all-male college when he was a student.

During the war, Ruane joined the Army Air Corps. At a base in Tucson, Ariz., he taught personnel how to operate the advanced weapon he had mastered: the turret gun. In the Philippines, he served with an Army artillery unit. From a tractor, he kept an eye out for snipers while inching the big guns through the jungle, according to the Philadelphia Inquirer (August 28).

After the war, Ruane returned to campus, graduating in 1948 with a degree in economics and hoping to study law. The next year he became Villanova’s public relations director, traveling by train with the teams and “phoning in the scores to the newspapers,” the Inquirer noted. He later reorganized the department into two offices: Public Relations and Sports Information.

During his long career at Villanova, Ruane showed many distinguished visitors around campus, among them the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.). Credited with building Villanova’s public relations operation, he served as moderator of the Villanovan for many years and on the committee on honorary degrees and awards. In 1962, he initiated Villanova’s St. Augustine Award for outstanding journalists. He edited the Alumnus, the alumni newspaper later renamed The Spires. In 1975, he initiated Reflections, which becameBlueprints, the faculty/staff newsletter. In 1985, he launched Villanova Magazine and served as its editor until he retired in February 1992. He also established the Speakers Bureau, which today still provides the community with experts on numerous topics.

Ruane observed Villanova’s growth into “a large, well-known co-ed university,” noted the Inquirer. A career highlight, according to the obituary, was when the men’s basketball team “won the NCAA championship in 1985 and the subsequent trip to the White House to meet President Ronald Reagan.”

Ruane is survived by his wife of 58 years, Regina E. Ruane; a daughter, Kathleen P. Ruane ’72 Nur.; a son, Michael E. Ruane ’72 A&S, ’83 M.A.; four grandchildren; two brothers, Vincent Ruane and Richard E. Ruane ’50 C&F; and a sister, Claire Kowalchik. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at SS. Simon and Jude Roman Catholic Church in West Chester, Pa.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging, One Elmwood Avenue, Kansas City, KS 66103.

Faculty, Staff and Students
Brett Andersen ’08 M.E., on October 8.
Leo R. Landrey, retired instructor in the College of Engineering, on June 21.
William Miehle, retired faculty member, on December 27, 2003.
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The Foundation:
**The Legacy Foundation** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed to provide scholarships to Villanova students who due to the death of a parent become financially unable to continue their education. The Foundation was formed in memory of the author, Michael P. Connolly '72. Michael passed away on September 10, 2001, and had completed this book prior to his death. He envisioned this as a gift to fellow Villanovans.

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