Midnight in Manhattan

Students Hit the Streets to Help Those In Need
Students Celebrate SJU

During the first week of the fall semester, members of the Freshman Class got into the spirit of St. John’s by gathering on the Great Lawn of the Queens campus to take their place in University history. The newest members of the St. John’s family arranged themselves in a living formation of the recently unveiled new SJU logo.
To watch the time-lapse video of our students forming the new logo, please visit www.stjohns.edu/fall13mag
Dear Friends,

As many of you are aware, I was formally installed as President of St. John’s University this past September, and I am honored to serve. As a member and as Chair of the University’s Board of Trustees for many years, I know the traditions and rich history of this institution, and I am committed to continuing both.

When I arrived back in August, one of my top priorities was to meet the St. John’s community — to go out and speak with the students, alumni, faculty, administrators and staff who comprise this magnificent institution. And thanks to events such as New Student Convocation, Faculty Convocation, SJU Oktoberfest and the 16th Annual President’s Dinner, I have been able to greet so many of you, and I am overwhelmed by everyone’s passion for St. John’s.

Most of all, though, I have come to realize what truly sets our community apart: we always serve others.

Nothing exemplifies this more perfectly than the Midnight Run program, a wonderful initiative that our students have been participating in since 2003. Each semester, hundreds of students take part in these weekly “runs,” bringing sandwiches, clothing, toiletries and more to the homeless of Manhattan. In the true spirit of Vincentian service, they reflect on their experiences and, as a result, gain a greater understanding of what it means to live compassionately.

The cover story of this issue of St. John’s University Alumni Magazine describes the Midnight Run program in much greater detail. As you will see, our young men and women are profoundly impacted by service and, once they graduate, carry the Vincentian spirit with them to communities near and far. Simply put, we can take pride in knowing that St. John’s students and alumni are quite literally changing the world.

In the past few months, I have been absolutely amazed at the warmth and kindness St. John’s has afforded me. With the Vincentian mission so strong here on campus, though, it is no surprise that our community is as generous and inviting as it is.

Let me close by thanking you for all that you do for St. John’s and expressing my hope that I will have the opportunity to meet more of you in the months ahead. In the meantime, if you would like to contact me, my email address is levesquj@stjohns.edu.

Joseph L. Levesque, C.M.
President
HELPING THE HOMELESS
Students spent a night on the streets of New York City bringing food, clothing and compassionate care to the homeless.

DEPARTMENTS

NOTEWORTHY .................................................... 5
CHAPTER HAPPENINGS .............................. 12
G.O.L.D. ......................................................... 15
ATHLETICS ..................................................... 16
- Women’s Soccer NCAA Bid
- Athletic Alumni Reunions
- Red Storm Tip-Off
- Men’s Basketball European Tour
UP FRONT .......................................................... 20
- START Program
- Alumnae in Leadership
- Manhattan Campus Sale
- Administrative Changes
- Legends Initiative
- Student Missions in Guatemala
CAMPUS BRIEFS .............................................. 44
GIVING BACK .................................................. 46
- Thank You Donors
- Golf Outings Support Scholarships
- President’s Dinner
- The McCallen Society Luncheon
- Evening with Basketball
ALUMNOTES .................................................. 59
A CONVERSATION WITH ......................... 64

NEW PRESIDENT INSTALLED
Rev. Joseph L. Levesque, C.M., S.T.D. assumed the leadership of St. John’s after 13 years as President of Niagara University.

SJU BRAND
The University launched a new brand identity that features a return to the popular SJU designation.

PRESIDENT’S DINNER
More than $2 million is raised for student scholarships and the event honored four alumni for exceptional service.

ON THE WEB
Visit our Web site for the latest updates, news and events at www.stjohns.edu/alumni or call (877) SJU-ALUM.

ON THE COVER
Erin Kennedy ’13C
As a St. John’s alumnus, you can have a direct impact on our more than 21,000 students.

make a difference today

Annual gifts ensure that St. John’s will have the resources to remain at the forefront of educational excellence, by offering our students a superior academic experience.

To show our appreciation, St. John’s alumni receive special discounts and benefits with the following partners:

1-800-Baskets.com
1-800-Flowers.com
AmeriHost Inn
Avis
Bank of America
Baymont Inn & Suites
Brooks Brothers
Budget Car Rental
Cheryl’s Gourmet Cookies
Club Quarters
Courtyard Marriott JFK Airport Hotel
Days Inn
Fannie May Berries
FruitBouquets.com
Hawthorn Suites
Howard Johnson
Icon Parking Systems
Jos. A. Bank
Knights Inn
Lenovo
Liberty Mutual Insurance
Marsh Insurance Services
Mechanic-on-Duty
Microtel Inns & Suites
New York LaGuardia Airport Marriott
New York Marriott Marquis
The Parking Spot
Personal Wine
Phone Interview Pro
The Popcorn Factory
The Princeton Review
Ramada
Retail Benefits
St. John’s University Bookstore Online
Stock Yards Steaks & Chops
Stout NYC
Travelodge
The Williams Club
Winetasting.com
Wingate by Wyndham
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

For more information, please visit www.stjohns.edu/alumnibenefits
Staten Island Family Day

Alumni and their families had a great time when they came back to campus for Staten Island Family Day. The popular event featured something for everyone, with games, rides, a visit from SJU mascot Johnny Thunderbird and a pumpkin patch where the kids could pick their own Halloween pumpkin.

To read the complete stories and view photo galleries, please visit www.stjohns.edu/fall13mag

Columbus Day Parade

St. John’s alumni, students, faculty and staff added a flash of red as they marched proudly in the 69th Annual Columbus Day Parade in New York City. The distinctive Red Storm float drew cheers and waves from the thousands of spectators lined up all along the route.
University Service Day

The University community put its Vincentian mission of reaching out to those in need into action at the 12th Annual Service Day. They worked throughout the day in soup kitchens, nursing homes and other venues to make a difference for the under-served in local communities around the Queens and Staten Island campuses.

World Youth Day

Ashley Bauman ’15C, a Junior from the Staten Island campus and Joseph Reis ’14C, a Senior from the Queens campus joined thousands of young Catholics who traveled to Brazil for World Youth Day. The week-long activities included a prayer service welcoming Pope Francis I, a living Stations of the Cross and the closing Mass celebrated by His Holiness.

To read the complete stories and view photo galleries, please visit www.stjohns.edu/fall13mag
Schermerhorn Street Alumni Reception

Graduates of St. John’s Schermerhorn Street campus reminisced about their days in downtown Brooklyn at a reception held in an authentic Celtic pub in the heart of New York’s Times Square. The alumni caught up on what’s been happening with each other and swapped stories of days gone by.

Lewis Avenue Reunion

William Ryan ’47C and Constance Stoll ’56Ed were honored with the St. John’s Lewis Avenue Alumni Legacy Award at the 56th Annual Lewis Avenue Reunion. The feelings of closeness that have withstood the test of time were readily apparent among the alumni as they reconnected with old friends and former classmates from St. John’s original campus.

To read the complete stories and view photo galleries, please visit www.stjohns.edu/fall13mag
TCBAA Networking Reception

Alumni from The Peter J. Tobin College of Business took advantage of the opportunity to make important personal and professional connections at the Tobin College of Business Alumni Association (TCBAA) Networking Reception. This event is designed to give business alumni a chance to meet and mingle with fellow graduates in leading companies located throughout the greater New York metropolitan area.

SJU Oktoberfest

It was a night of non-stop excitement and fun as alumni came back to the Queens campus for the first annual SJU Oktoberfest. They met St. John’s new President Rev. Joseph L. Levesque, C.M. and spent the rest of the evening sampling traditional German food and beer. The event celebrated the launch of the University’s new brand identity.

To read the complete stories and view photo galleries, please visit www.stjohns.edu/fall13mag
Thank you — the generosity of alumni and friends like you allowed more than 7,700 students to attend St. John’s last year and take their next step towards graduation!
Nothing compares to working on Capitol Hill or the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. And thanks to Alumni Insider’s View (AIV). Programs throughout the fall semester, students had an opportunity to travel to these iconic locations and gain firsthand insight from alumni professionals.

“Our students learn so much by traveling to where our alumni work and hearing from them directly,” said Elisa Douglas ’05C, Assistant Director in the Office of Alumni Relations. “In particular, Washington, DC and Wall Street are fascinating places to see up-close-and-personal, so I can’t thank our alumni enough for dedicating their time to help our students.”

At the 33rd Annual AIV...U.S. Capital program, students traveled to “the District” to participate in panel discussions and network with alumni who work in industries including law, politics, business, communications and more. For Milana Edwards ’14PS, Public Relations major, the trip made her much more confident in her career path.

“At the networking reception, I met some alumni with connections at PR firms, both in New York City and Washington, DC,” she explained. “I’m hoping that this will lead to an internship or entry-level job after I graduate — you really never know where networking might take you.”

The program also included visits to Newseum, an interactive museum of news and journalism, and President Lincoln’s Cottage at the Soldiers’ Home, where the final draft of the Emancipation Proclamation was written in 1862.

Meanwhile, the AIV...Day on Wall Street program brought Business students to lower Manhattan to meet with alumni and tour some of the city’s most respected financial institutions. Stops included Zurich North American Headquarters, the New York Stock Exchange, the Museum of American Finance and Standard & Poor’s.

Students later had an opportunity to network with the alumni during a special networking reception, exchanging business cards and chatting about how to kickstart a career in the world of Finance. Gary Chan ’97CBA, Managing Director, Global Head of Fixed Income Cash Products at J.P. Morgan, served as the keynote speaker.

“In today’s economic times, students are finding it harder and harder to find a stable and valuable career,” he noted. “For alumni, events like this are our way of giving back, and if students can gain an edge from what we have to say and what they’ve seen throughout the program, then that’s fantastic.”
Your Society Membership Begins...
...when you include St. John’s in your estate plan. Your estate gift can come in the form of a bequest from a will or trust; a beneficiary designation to your retirement plan or insurance policy; stock; gift annuity; or a contribution to our endowment.

Is there a minimum? No, simply inform us of your intentions to begin receiving the many benefits of the society. It’s that simple.

Contact Susan Damiani ’87CBA, Director of The McCallen Society at (718) 990-7562 or e-mail damianis@stjohns.edu

www.stjohns.edu/mccallen
Turning the Page: Elizabeth Austin ’08TCB, ’10MBA Takes Charge of Alumni Chapters

When she first stepped foot onto the Queens campus as a freshman in 2004, Elizabeth Austin ’08TCB, ’10MBA fell in love with New York City. But this Kansas City, MO native also recognized that the big city is just one part of the St. John’s community.

“I always marveled at how geographically diverse our student body was,” explained Austin, who joined SJU in a professional capacity after graduation and recently was named Assistant Director in the Office of Alumni Relations. The most important aspect of her new role is overseeing the revitalization of Alumni Chapters.

“Of course, New York City is a huge part of the St. John’s community, but we’ve got alumni and students with roots all across the country,” she said. “It’s important that we work with graduates in those areas to ensure that there’s strong SJU alumni leadership there, allowing us to keep all our graduates of that region connected to the University and to one another.”

To this end, Austin has already begun traveling across the country, meeting alumni and attending events and receptions. Some of these areas include: Connecticut, Florida, New Jersey, Los Angeles, CA and Washington, DC — but that’s just the tip of the iceberg.

“We’ve done a lot of fun things already,” Austin said, “like attending a Dodgers game in Los Angeles and gathering for a private reception with graduates living in the Atlanta, GA area. These are the types of fun events we hope to host throughout the country: sports games, networking opportunities, arts-and-enrichment outings — there’s so much to do!”

Austin stresses that she is also hoping for alumni suggestions — in fact, she encourages all graduates to contact her if they would like to get more involved, participate, take on a leadership role or simply establish an Alumni Chapter in their area. She has worked with a handful of alumni to create Twitter accounts for certain chapters, like in Connecticut (@SJUCT), New Jersey (@SJUalumniNJ) and San Francisco (@SJUSanFran). She hopes to create more in the future to further spread the word about regional activities.

“We will be updating our chapter Web pages,” Austin explained, “and also using Twitter to get the message out there, so I hope that all of our alumni — no matter where they live — will be able to feel connected and engaged with the University they love.”

LA DODGERS GAME >

California alumni showed off their St. John’s pride when the New York Mets came to town to challenge their long-time rival LA Dodgers. No matter which team they cheered for, there was a New York feel in the air as the Mets, Dodgers and alumni all have ties to the Big Apple.

Interested in getting involved in your Alumni Chapter? Call Austin at (718) 990-2548, e-mail her at austine@stjohns.edu or visit www.stjohns.edu/alumnichapters
MONMOUTH

Winning or losing weren’t all that important for the alumni who came out to enjoy a day at Monmouth Park Racetrack. They were there to reconnect with fellow members of their St. John’s family while sharing the excitement at a perfect spot along the rail as the horses went thundering by.

SARATOGA

More than 70 alumni from the upstate areas of New York gathered at the exclusive At The Rail Pavilion at historic Saratoga Race Course to catch up with old friends while watching a day of exciting thoroughbred racing. They especially enjoyed the race that was dedicated to St. John’s.

ATLANTA

Atlanta alumni enjoyed an evening of good times with good friends when they got together at the Atlanta Marriot Buckhead Hotel for a networking and cocktail reception. They took advantage of the opportunity to learn what was happening at the University while making connections with other local St. John’s graduates.
**NEW JERSEY GOLF OUTING**

Alumni from across New Jersey spent the day at Spring Lake Golf Club for the annual New Jersey Golf Outing. It was a way for them to engage in some friendly competition on a beautiful course while renewing their connection to St. John’s. After golf the alumni spent the evening sharing stories and memories at a casual cocktail reception and dinner.

Watching the big game is a lot more fun when you’re surrounded by fellow St. John’s alumni! Cheer on the Johnnies at our Men’s Basketball Gamewatches and talk Red Storm hoops with alumni living in your area.

**Arizona Alumni Chapter**
*All Gamewatches will be held at Majerle’s Sports Grill, 4225 Saddlebag Trail, Scottsdale, AZ 85251*

- **Villanova at SJU**
  - Saturday, January 11, 2014
  - 11 a.m. (MT)
- **SJU at Butler**
  - Saturday, January 25, 2014
  - 2 p.m. (MT)
- **Creighton at SJU**
  - Sunday, February 9, 2014
  - 5 p.m. (MT)
- **SJU at Seton Hall**
  - Thursday, February 13, 2014
  - 7 p.m. (MT)

**Georgetown at SJU**
*Sunday, February 16, 2014
  - 5 p.m. (MT)*

**Butler at SJU**
*Tuesday, February 18, 2014
  - 7 p.m. (MT)*

**Xavier at SJU**
*Tuesday, February 25, 2014
  - 5 p.m. (MT)*

**Atlanta Alumni Chapter**
*All Gamewatches will be held at The Hudson Grill, 6317 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, GA 30328*

- **Villanova at SJU**
  - Saturday, January 11, 2014
  - 1 p.m. (eST)
- **SJU at Villanova**
  - Saturday, February 22, 2014
  - 1:30 p.m. (eST)

**Los Angeles Alumni Chapter**
*All Gamewatches will be held at Barney’s Beanery, 8447 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069*

- **Villanova at SJU**
  - Saturday, January 11, 2014
  - 10 a.m. (PT)
- **SJU at Butler**
  - Saturday, January 25, 2014
  - 1 p.m. (PT)
- **Creighton at SJU**
  - Sunday, February 9, 2014
  - 4 p.m. (PT)
- **SJU at Seton Hall**
  - Thursday, February 13, 2014
  - 6 p.m. (PT)

**Georgetown at SJU**
*Sunday, February 16, 2014
  - 4 p.m. (PT)*

**Butler at SJU**
*Tuesday, February 18, 2014
  - 6 p.m. (PT)*

**Xavier at SJU**
*Tuesday, February 25, 2014
  - 4 p.m. (PT)*

**San Francisco Alumni Chapter**
*Creighton at SJU
  - Sunday, February 9, 2014
  - 4 p.m. (PT)*

**Chicago Alumni Chapter**
*SJU at Marquette
  - Saturday, March 8, 2014
  - 11 a.m. (CT)*

**Other Chapters Hosting Gamewatches**

**Orlando Alumni Chapter**
*SJU at Butler
  - Saturday, January 25, 2014
  - Orlando, FL
  - 4 p.m. (EST)*

**San Francisco Alumni Chapter**
*Creighton at SJU
  - Sunday, February 9, 2014
  - San Francisco, CA
  - 4 p.m. (PT)*

**Boston Alumni Chapter**
*Marquette at SJU
  - Saturday, February 1, 2014
  - Boston, MA
  - 12:30 p.m. (EST)*

**Chicago Alumni Chapter**
*SJU at Marquette
  - Saturday, March 8, 2014
  - Chicago, IL
  - 11 a.m. (CT)*

For complete details, please visit [www.stjohns.edu/gamewatches](http://www.stjohns.edu/gamewatches)
A GOLDen Opportunity for Recent Graduates

From now on, recent graduates are as good as G.O.L.D. — “Graduates of the Last Decade,” that is. The acronym, which was recently introduced by the Office of Alumni Relations, encompasses all alumni who graduated with an undergraduate degree within the past 10 years. And, what’s more, there will be special events and discounts available exclusively for this enthusiastic group.

“Alumni who graduated within the last 10 years have a lot in common,” said Elisa Douglas ’05C, Assistant Director in the Office of Alumni Relations, who will be overseeing all G.O.L.D. activities. “Most of them are still very early in their professional careers, and they also share many of the same cultural interests. By grouping them together with this fun, new acronym, we hope to keep them engaged with the University, to broaden their horizons and to help them further develop their own alumni network.”

The G.O.L.D. initiative is still young, but there has already been one introductory event, called Golf to G.O.L.D.: Around SJU in 9 Holes. This fun program allowed students to play mini-golf on the Great Lawn and later network with G.O.L.D. alumni.

Douglas hopes that this type of student-alumni interaction will remain a hallmark of these events, but it only scratches the surface of what she’s hoping to do.

“Networking — maybe even networking by industry — will definitely play a part in our future events,” Douglas explained. “There will also be arts-and-enrichment outings, such as ice skating in Bryant Park, in addition to opportunities for our alumni to serve others. Giving back to the community is important for many of our G.O.L.D. alumni, so we hope to be the catalyst that helps them stay involved in those efforts.”

An informal G.O.L.D. leadership group, consisting of a handful of recent alumni, has been meeting periodically over the last few months to help Douglas plan and organize upcoming events.

“As it is, G.O.L.D. alumni will receive special discounts at a number of events, like at our Men’s Basketball Pre-Game Receptions, so that alone is pretty fantastic,” Douglas noted. “But there’s so much more for our G.O.L.D. graduates to do, and I’m excited to be preparing a host of events and initiatives for them. And, of course, I hope to hear from recent graduates as we continue this exciting process.”

Alumni Generosity is Par for the Course

The first official G.O.L.D. event proved to be a hole-in-one, literally.

At Golf to G.O.L.D.: Around SJU in 9 Holes, students learned about alumni generosity and how they can utilize the St. John’s network to further their careers. Sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations and University Career Services, the event featured a nine-hole mini-golf course set up across the Great Lawn, with fun facts at each hole.

“Personally, my perspective on St. John’s was transformed when I realized just how generous our alumni are,” said Max Rindfleisch ’14C, the President of the St. John’s Student Alumni Association. “That’s why this event was so important — when students realize that their scholarships were made possible because of alumni, they are reminded of just how special our community is.”

Shortly after the mini golf concluded, G.O.L.D. alumni came back to campus to attend a networking reception, where they mingled with one another and shared their advice with students. For Rindfleisch, this is what made the event particularly meaningful.

“I definitely asked a few of them for their business cards,” he said. “G.O.L.D. alumni can relate to students in a lot of ways, since they were in our shoes not long ago. It’s always refreshing to hear their perspective, and I can’t wait for similar events like this down the line.”

Interested in participating in the G.O.L.D. events? Contact Elisa Douglas ’05C at (718) 990-6168 or by e-mail at douglase@stjohns.edu
ATHLETICS

A Year of Milestones for Women’s Soccer

For the first time in its 27-year history, the Red Storm Women’s Soccer team won a game in the big dance. After posting an impressive 11-5-3 regular-season record — including an undefeated mark at home — the squad earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament, where it beat the University of Central Florida in the First Round.

“I’m so, so happy that we’ve managed to get into the NCAA Tournament,” said Head Coach Ian Stone. “It’s a dream. We have 11 wins [this season], and I think one of the things that factored into our selection is that we’ve done well recently, including making the BIG EAST semifinals.”

Although the Red Storm ultimately fell to Arkansas in the Second Round, the season proved historic. Forward Rachel Daly ’16CPS set the all-time program records for single-season points (47) and goals (22) and was the nation’s leading scorer as of November 7, 2013. In recognition of her monster year, Daly was named both BIG EAST Offensive Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year by a vote of the league’s head coaches, a unanimous selection for both major accolades.

Perhaps the season’s most exciting moment came in the regular-season finale. In a crucial game to clinch its entry into the BIG EAST Tournament, St. John’s pulled off an upset by claiming a 3-0 victory over DePaul University in front of a season-high 1,759 fans at Belson Stadium.

“It’s a very talented group that really had to come together as a team,” Stone explained. “We had our backs against the wall a number of times this season, and that’s when you really find out what that character is all about, when they really had no other choice but to come together. That’s what makes this so exciting for me.”

More than Just a Game for Athletics Alumni

Red Storm pride was on full display during the Fall semester, as former student-athletes came back to campus for a number of athletics gatherings.

At Athletics Alumni Reunion Weekend, former members from all of the University’s past and present sports programs — as well as alumni from the Pep Band, Cheerleading Squad and Dance team — reminisced and relived their glory days by participating in alumni games. And during the “Legends of St. John’s Basketball Alumni Game,” held as part of the annual Red Storm Tip-Off event, Men’s and Women’s Basketball alumni suited up for an alumni scrimmage. They also attended a St. John’s Basketball Alumni Memorial Mass and watched the current Men’s team practice.

Meanwhile, during the Second Annual Olympic Night, St. John’s Track and Field alumni were honored for their achievements and for their participation in world games like the Olympics. “Our sports tradition wouldn’t be what it is without our amazing athletic alumni,” said Paul Sclafani ’08CPS, ’10MBA, Assistant Director of Athletic Development. “Their SJU pride is off the charts, so it’s always fun to bring them back to campus and watch them reminisce.”
Hoops Season
Tips off in Style

It’s showtime! A packed house of 5,308 fans came out to Carnesecca Arena for the Red Storm Tip-Off, celebrating the start of the college basketball season. The crowd got an early look at both the Men’s and Women’s teams, as the players competed in a friendly scrimmage, a slam-dunk contest and three-point-shooting exhibition. Additionally, the night featured a star-studded alumni game and even a performance from Grammy-nominated hip-hop artist Lupe Fiasco.
Men’s Basketball Takes Europe by Storm

Team-building and camaraderie took center stage this summer when the Men’s Basketball team embarked on a two-week trip to Europe. With stops in France, Italy and Spain, the whirlwind tour allowed the team to build chemistry, participate in exhibition games against some of Europe’s top professional clubs and serve local communities.

“Our team understood from the start that this European tour would provide us with an early report card and checklist of specific areas we need to improve on as we move toward the 2013-14 campaign,” said Head Coach Steve Lavin. “Our team clearly enjoyed this globetrotting experience on all fronts. It was an ideal opportunity to see and learn about a different part of the world while gelling as a basketball team.”

Among the trip’s highlights: exhibition victories over France’s Rouen Basket, Italy’s Stella Azzurra and Spain’s CB Prat Joventut; tours of Holy Rome, St. Peter’s Basilica and The Louvre; and participation in a Midnight Run while visiting St. John’s Rome, Italy campus.

The Midnight Run proved to be a particularly rewarding experience, as the Johnnies made sandwiches and distributed them to those in need.

“Back home in New York, we often go to the Bread and Life soup kitchen in Brooklyn,” said Chris Obekpa ‘16C. “I love giving back to the community like that, any way that I can….I feel blessed when I see them smile.”
Our Athletes Reach the Highest Levels – Your Support Helps Them Get There.

Join the Red White Club today and become a part of St. John’s proud athletics tradition!

St. John’s University
RED WHITE CLUB

Tel (718) 990-2547  Fax (718) 990-6812
redwhiteclub@stjohns.edu  www.stjohns.edu/redwhiteclub  www.redstormsports.com

Find us @StJohnsRedWhiteClub  Follow us @StJohnsRedStorm

Photos: Keegan Bradley - Getty Images; Dagmara Wozniak – Nicole Jonsartas / USA Fencing
Alumni Take an Active Role in University Recruitment

For many alumni, their connection to the University doesn’t end at graduation. They enjoyed their experiences as students, and are grateful for the role that St. John’s continues to play in their lives.

One of the ways in which an ever-increasing number have chosen to show their pride in the University is by sharing it with potential students as members of the St. John’s Alumni Recruitment Team (START).

START is a volunteer-based program that is managed by the Office of Undergraduate Admission. It offers alumni an opportunity to be a part of the University’s future by engaging in the recruitment process of potential students, and also serves to strengthen the connection between the alumni and St. John’s.

“The START program is a way for our alumni to be involved with the University and also to act as reflections of the value of a St. John’s education,” said Samantha Hastler, Senior Associate Director of Admission. “Their presence at recruitment events allows them to share their personal stories as members of the University community, first as students and now as active alumni. It’s a powerful message that really resonates with potential students and their families.”

Alumni can participate as START volunteers in a number of ways. They can serve as St. John’s representatives at off-campus college fairs, either alone or in the company of a professional Admission Counselor, and provide both printed information and personal interaction with high school and transfer students who are considering applying to the University. They can add an alumni component at on-campus recruitment events, such as the Fall Open House and Spring Accepted Students Day.

Alumni from outside the greater New York metropolitan area can connect with incoming students in or near their hometown by attending geographically-based area receptions for accepted students. Although most area receptions are held in local restaurants and hotels, the program is always eager to hear from alumni volunteers who are interested in hosting events in their offices or homes.

In order to assist START volunteers, the Office of Admission has developed a training program to prepare them for the types of questions they can expect to encounter from potential students.

“At least once a semester we provide an opportunity for our alumni participants to come to an on-campus training session,” noted Hastler. “It’s usually in the evening and on weekends to try to make it as convenient as we can. We ask that if at all possible our alumni volunteers either attend the training session or train in person by going to a college fair or other event with an Admission professional. We also provide a START manual that has lots of quick facts and information that would be relevant for them to know in recruiting students. In the future we’re hoping to do several Webinar trainings for out-of-town alumni. It would be the same training that we do on campus, but we would be doing it electronically.”

Alumni have responded to the program with enthusiasm. More than 300 have already volunteered, and from all reports their experiences have been pleasant and satisfying.

Ashley Falzone ’10C enjoyed her time at St. John’s, and decided that becoming a START volunteer would be a good way to share her love for the University with future students who might one day follow in her footsteps. She frequently attends college fairs at high schools on Long Island, offering potential students a glimpse of what St. John’s is like through the eyes of a recent graduate.

Falzone strongly believes that alumni involvement adds a unique dimension to the overall recruitment process.

“It think it’s very important for alumni to be involved in admission initiatives,” she said, “since as former students we have a different and more personal perspective on the University because we went there. We can really speak to what being a member of the St. John’s family is all about, and let potential students and their families see that we’re still connected even after we’ve graduated. I really enjoy being able to communicate with high school students about their goals, and tell them why St. John’s would be a great choice for their college experience.”

Participating as START volunteer is a way for Geoffrey Sims ‘83MBA to show his appreciation for what St. John’s did for him, both personally and professionally. He recognizes that alumni have a valuable perspective to add to the recruitment process, and is happy to do his part by sharing his story with future students.

“START is an excellent program which ultimately benefits both the student and the University,” he said. “I am glad to contribute as I am a huge fan of St. John’s, and fully recognize and appreciate how important the school has been to my career success.”

To learn more about becoming a START volunteer, contact Samantha Hastler, Senior Associate Director of Admission, at (718) 390-4327 or e-mail hastlers@stjohns.edu
Alumnae Guide
Students Towards Future Success

All young people face challenges as they enter the workforce for the first time, and those challenges can be particularly daunting for women.

Fortunately, St. John’s alumnae have not forgotten what it was like when they began their careers after graduation. Their willingness to mentor the students who may soon follow in their footsteps is a way to remain connected to the University that has played such an important part in their lives.

Margaret Keane ’81C, ’87MBA remembers that although she lived at home and had to work a number of jobs to pay her tuition, she always tried to take advantage of everything that St. John’s had to offer. Now Chief Executive Officer of GE Capital Finance, Keane is in the process of establishing a Women in Leadership Scholarship to assist students who cannot afford to send me to college, so I paid my way,” she explained. “I think it’s important that, since I’ve now taken a new job in a position where I can give back, I can give someone in need some financial aid, and allow that student to spend more time studying without having to worry about the financial burden of education.”

Keane enjoys coming back to campus to share her story with today’s female students. She believes that women need to become aware of the realities of the business world while still planning their careers, so that they will be better able to make a smooth transition from the campus to the office.

“I mentor a lot of women,” she said, “both inside my company and outside, and the thing that I always tell young women is that they need to have confidence. Sometimes women get very hung up on whether they should get married, have children, get promoted, or whatever. I stress that if they’re going to move up in a company, it’s hard work, and they’re competing against men. And I remind them that their career will probably last for 30 or more years, so they don’t have to do everything all at once.”

Augusta Sanfilippo ’85Svc, ’94MBA is another alumna who enjoys returning to the University to advise current students. Following graduation, Sanfilippo spent a few years analyzing data within the Youth Bureau of the Office of New York City Mayor Edward I. Koch before transitioning from government service into the private sector. During the past 25 years she has held key positions in some of the world’s most prestigious investment banking corporations, including Credit Suisse, JP Morgan and Salomon Brothers.

She is currently Managing Director, Investment Banking Information Technology – Operations IT at Citibank, where she is responsible for an annual budget of over $200 million and 1,700 employees across 16 global locations.

“I’ve been a huge proponent of mentoring over the years,” she said, “and now I’ve taken a newfound affinity toward sponsoring — advocating for women and helping them with their careers. The biggest challenge I see facing women today is that when women get out of school, they are incredibly eager and are sort of thinking too far ahead. They think, ‘Will this job help me in 10 years, when I have to juggle a nanny, when I have a child?’ And I tell them not to think about that until they’re ready for it.”

Both Keane and Sanfilippo were panelists at a recent Women in Leadership event, designed to give St. John’s students an opportunity to meet and network with a group of successful alumnae who hold key positions as female executives. The program highlighted the evolving role of women as financial decision-makers and industry leaders while examining the special challenges facing professional women.

It is one of the many ways that alumnae give back to the University by reaching out to current students.

“Our alumnae have such a powerful message to share,” noted Victoria Shoaf, Ph.D., Dean of St. John’s The Peter J. Tobin College of Business. “Their observations about how things are a little different to be a woman in the workforce are very useful, and their advice about how our students should be looking at their career preparation, and not holding back or being set in one path, are incredibly valuable.”

Students are eager to take advantage of what the alumnae have to offer. They realize that these successful women have a wealth of information to share with them, and are excited to follow up in ways that will keep them connected in the future.

“Networking is so important,” noted Boryana Yordanova ’15MBA. “I’m going to e-mail these alumnae and keep in touch with them to build long-lasting relationships. In a year when I graduate, I may reach out and ask them for advice about what industry they think would be best for me. Those relationships and that mentoring, is what helps a person go the distance in the professional world. It’s all about making the personal connections.”
Manhattan Campus Sale Enhances University’s Financial Profile

Taking advantage of the strong New York City real estate market, St. John’s University recently announced the sale of its Manhattan campus, located at 101 Murray Street in lower Manhattan. The University will continue to occupy the building for the current academic year, and will welcome students to a new Manhattan location in time for the start of the Fall 2014 semester.

St. John’s has occupied the Murray Street location since June 2001, following its merger with The College of Insurance (TCI). Through the merger, TCI became The School of Risk Management, a component of the University’s The Peter J. Tobin College of Business.

The 10-story building was sold for $223 million, qualifying it as one of the largest real estate transactions in the history of lower Manhattan. While a portion of the proceeds from the sale will be used to enhance the University’s academic offerings and improve facilities, the largest share will be used to augment its endowment, which will allow for a significant increase in ongoing financial aid for deserving students.

“The University takes great pride in our presence in Manhattan, and the overwhelming success of this transaction allows us to ensure the strength of that presence for generations of St. John’s students to come,” said Martha K. Hirst, St. John’s Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer.

As a result of this successful real estate initiative, Moody’s Investors Service has raised the rating of the University’s outstanding revenue bonds from “stable” to “positive”. Moody’s indicated that the overall reasoning for the improved rating was based on the fact that the sale could more than double St. John’s unrestricted financial resources and greatly improve operating flexibility.

“We are extremely pleased that Moody’s has raised its credit rating outlook for St. John’s,” noted Sharon Hewitt Watkins, CPA, University Vice President for Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer. “Particularly in these challenging times in higher education, the fiscal strength of the University is critical to ensuring our students’ success.”

Moody’s considered a number of other factors before issuing the new rating.

Of major importance was St. John’s established, but highly competitive market position as a large, private Catholic university that has a track record of favorable operating performance and solid fundraising.

The evaluators also reacted favorably to the University’s commitment to cost containment and sound budgeting practices as reflected in its history of consistently balanced budgets. They noted that “St. John’s financial management team has built in operational flexibility on the expense side with contingency planning and conservative budgeting.”

Moody’s concluded the evaluation by stating that a clear strategic plan and liquid investment strategy for the use of proceeds of the building sale could result in an additional upgrade for the University in the future.

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During the past few months four individuals have been named to fill key administrative positions within the University. Russell J. DiGate, Ph.D. was elected by the University’s Board of Trustees to serve as Dean of St. John’s College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; James O’Keefe, Ph.D. ’79SVC was appointed Vice Provost for the University’s Staten Island campus; Joseph E. Oliva ’91CBA, ’94L, who currently serves as St. John’s General Counsel, assumed additional oversight responsibilities for University Athletics; and Edward M. Kull ’05MBA was named as Acting Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

It was St. John’s commitment to academic excellence combined with the University’s unique mission of service that convinced Dr. Russell DiGate to accept the position as St. John’s newest Academic Dean.

“For me, the Vincentian mission is the most engaging aspect of St. John’s, because I’m very interested in health care disparities,” he said. “This is so important in a profession that, by its very nature, serves underprivileged populations. That’s what the Vincentians are about, and that’s what the health professions should be about. My goal is to make sure that every one of our programs has overt components that are linked to the University’s Vincentian mission.”

Prior to coming to St. John’s, DiGate served as Provost at University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, PA. He came to the University of the Sciences from the University of Maryland, where he served as Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education, and Acting Dean within the School of Pharmacy. An internationally recognized expert in the field of topoisomerase and DNA replication, he earned a Ph.D. from the University of Rochester (NY) and conducted postdoctoral research at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (NY).

Joseph E. Oliva ’91CBA, ’94L
A tenured Associate Professor and former Associate dean of the college of Professional Studies, Dr. James O’Keefe will return to St. John’s in January following completion of a two-year leave of absence, during which he served as a Deputy Commissioner for Training in the New York Police Department (NYPD). In that role he focused on providing the 51,000 sworn and civilian members of the NYPD with the finest and most advanced education and training. His responsibilities included training new recruits as well as providing promotional training for sergeants, lieutenants and captains. He also offered in-service tactical training; civilian training and executive development.

In his new position as Vice Provost, O’Keefe will be the senior academic administrator assigned to the Staten Island campus.

“I am delighted that Jim (O’Keefe) will be applying his outstanding leadership skills, his past experience as a faculty member and administrator on the Staten Island campus, and his most recent experience as Deputy Commissioner to this critically important academic leadership position,” said University Provost Robert A. Mangione, R.Ph. ’77P, ’79GP, ’93PD, ’99Ed.D.

O’Keefe earned his B.S. in Criminal Justice from St. Vincent’s College of St. John’s University in 1979. He also holds an M.S. in Political Science and Administration and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice Administration from Sam Houston State University (TX).

Joe Oliva’s oversight responsibility for Athletics is in addition to his long-standing position as St. John’s General Counsel, in which he provides legal guidance to the Board of Trustees, the President and other administrative offices of the University. Experienced in all aspects of athletic compliance, he played an integral role in St. John’s recent negotiations involving the new BIG EAST Conference.

“This is an exciting time in the history of St. John’s athletics,” noted Oliva. “The new BIG EAST Conference, the new television contract with FOX Sports and the new sponsorship arrangement with Under Armour are creating a buzz within the University community as well as within our fan base. I look forward to serving St. John’s in this new capacity as well as in my role as lawyer.”

Oliva is a double alumnus of St. John’s. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Finance, summa cum laude, from the College of Business Administration in 1991 and graduated magna cum laude from St. John’s School of Law in 1994.

Over the past decade, Ed Kull has developed a strong bond with St. John’s alumni and friends. He first came to the University in 2003 as Associate Athletic Director for Marketing and External Affairs. He left in 2007, joining fellow alumnus Mike Repole ‘91SVC at his start-up company, Glaceau Vitaminwater. Kull’s efforts helped to transform Vitaminwater from a small venture into a national brand. The company was later acquired by Coca Cola, and Kull remained with the new parent company, taking advantage of the opportunity to learn valuable corporate marketing skills.

He returned to the University in 2011 as Director of Development for Men’s Basketball, then served as Associate Chief of Staff for Athletics and Institutional Advancement. In the latter position he was involved in many athletics initiatives, including creation of the new BIG EAST Conference and identification of FOX Sports as the University’s TV partner and Under Armour as SJU’s new athletic apparel partner.

Kull received his bachelor’s degree in Finance from Stony Brook University and earned his M.B.A. in Executive Management from The Peter J. Tobin College of Business in 2005.

In his new role, Kull is responsible for all aspects of alumni relations and fundraising. “I am excited to be leading Institutional Advancement as we move into the future by building upon the accomplishments of the past,” he said. “The opportunities to engage our alumni, coupled with the ever-present need to generate the resources necessary to advance the University’s unique mission, are more important today than ever.”

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History in the Making: Lapchick Statue Coming to Campus

The late Joe Lapchick holds a special place in St. John’s Men’s Basketball history. And through the generous efforts of alumnus Kevin Reed ’75c, this former head coach’s legacy will soon be on full display on the Queens campus.

With the help and support of fans and St. John’s administrators, Reed spearheaded a project to construct a life-sized statue of Lapchick and ultimately place it across from Carnesecca Arena in an area slated to be called ‘Legends Plaza’. The statue will be unveiled during a special ceremony tentatively planned for Spring 2014.

“The idea came to me while I was watching a documentary on MSG Network about Joe Lapchick,” Reed recalled. “It highlighted the ways Coach Lapchick left an indelible mark on not only St. John’s, but on the entire game of basketball.”

In 20 seasons as head coach of SJU Men’s Basketball, Lapchick captured four NIT championships (during a time in which the NIT was the nation’s premier collegiate basketball tournament). Additionally, Lapchick was a player on the original Celtics and later served as coach of the New York Knickerbockers, breaking the color barrier in the NBA by signing the league’s first African-American player, Nathaniel “Sweetwater” Clifton, in 1950.

“By all accounts,” Reed continued, “Joe Lapchick was a Hall-of-Fame coach and a Hall-of-Fame person. I began to wonder: ‘Why are there no prominent monuments on the Queens campus honoring Lapchick’s legacy? And that’s precisely how this statue idea got off the ground.”

To make his dream a reality, Reed reached out to a handful of Lapchick’s former players, including Gus Alfieri ’59c, ’64ged, the author of Lapchick: The Life of a Legendary Player and Coach in the Glory Days of Basketball. Reed also befriended Lapchick’s son, fellow alumnus Richard Lapchick, Ph.D. ’67C, ’01Hon, who has himself enjoyed a remarkable career in academics, studying how athletics can combat racial, gender and social inequalities.

It all culminated in a fundraising dinner in May, hosted by Reed to support the Lapchick statue.

Dr. Lapchick served as the guest of honor and spoke about why he feels it’s important for St. John’s to remember its roots.

“I think that the younger generation does not necessarily have a great sense of history,” Dr. Lapchick noted. “This statue of my father will serve as a unique way of bringing them that history, of understanding whose shoulders they’re standing on, and I think that’s very important.”

Funding for the Lapchick sculpture has already been secured, but Reed and SJU administrators hope to add more statues to “Legends Plaza” in the near future. As Dr. Lapchick was quick to point out at the fundraiser, there is certainly no shortage of legendary Men’s Basketball figures for the University to honor.

“There are so many great people associated with St. John’s, such as Lou Carnesecca ’50c, ’60GEd, ’00Hon, Jack Kaiser ’49c and others,” he explained. “Those two men in particular are perfect reflections of the mission of the University, embodying the warm, family feeling you get when you step foot on campus. It’d be truly amazing to honor individuals like them with statues one day, too.”

Reed, meanwhile, is thankful to all of the fans, alumni and administrators who helped him raise funds for the Lapchick statue.

“As always, the St. John’s community joined together to honor its rich history,” Reed said. “Hopefully ‘Legends Plaza’ will serve as a wonderful addition to campus and teach today’s students about a very special figure in our Men’s Basketball tradition.”

Want to support future additions to ‘Legends Plaza’? Please contact Kevin Barry ’06MBA at (718) 990-6147 or Rino Grzinic ’77SVC at (718) 990-6787
Students Carry the University’s Mission to Guatemala

Graduate students in Speech Pathology gain real-world experience during a unique study-abroad opportunity that combines classroom learning, practical experience and service to others. This unique initiative began in 2009 when Nancy Colodny, Ed.D., C.C.C.-S.L.P., an Associate Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders in St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, decided to give her students a first-hand opportunity to witness the need for efficient medical care, treatment and supplies in an area different from anything they’d ever experienced.

For the past five years, children at an orphanage in rural Guatemala have benefited from the expertise of this compassionate professor who specializes in speech disorders. She and her students volunteer there for 10 days each May to help children whose health problems hinder their ability to swallow. The hands-on experience is part of her graduate-level course, Management of Pediatric Dysphagia in a Developing Country. The class represents a collaboration between the Offices of Academic Service-Learning and Global Studies.

“Our goal is to develop a learning community,” said Colodny. “Our students learn theories and practical applications and serve as role models for the hospital staff by demonstrating the correct feeding practices for infants.”

She noted that the students who go to Guatemala see medical conditions and practices they may not encounter in this country. Children at the orphanage are at risk for dysphagia, or difficulty swallowing, which can lead to malnutrition, choking and pneumonia.

“This program is geared towards those individuals who aim to achieve practical skills in the theories of early intervention and patho-physiology,” she explained. “It is a wonderful opportunity for the students to integrate theory and practice and learn the importance of making recommendations with limited equipment, supplies and staffing constraints.”

According to Colodny, the program will help students foster their skills as future Speech Pathologists and obtain positions in hospitals, clinics, outpatient centers, private practices and schools. Speech Pathologists are experienced in diagnosing and treating feeding and swallowing problems as well as a variety of speech-language and communication problems across the lifespan.

Students often join Colodny to duplicate their experience in Guatemala during the year. While this provides a valuable experience for the students, she noted that the greatest benefit is for the facility’s patients and staff. In the midst of their day, students not only assist with feeding, but also change diapers, wash dishes, mop floors and help in any way they can. They also spend time interacting with the children, most of whom have very little human contact.

Students agreed that while it might be initially disheartening to meet so many children facing complex health issues, there were many happy moments and small victories. Elena Damiani ’14G recalled a nine-year-old boy named Henry whom everyone believed had limited communication skills.

“One day, she recalled, “Henry said, ‘Hola,’ and I was in shock. Then he asked, ‘How are you?’ in English, and I called everyone over. It was amazing to discover that he could speak Spanish and English. There were other children who couldn’t speak as well as Henry, but could communicate in their own way.”

Since the opportunities for service in Guatemala began, Colody has brought over 800 specialized spoons, therapeutic feeding bottles and a variety of other needed items to the facility. She also has participated in fundraising to purchase special medical equipment such as pulse oximeters and suction machines.

She applauds the University for its extensive support of the program.

“The beauty of it is the collaboration between Global Studies and Academic Service-Learning,” she said. “Both offices have embraced the program and have asked me to give presentations. It’s wonderful to have that kind of support, and the students feel that as well.”
MIDNIGHT MANHATT SOCIAL CHANGE
The streets of the city

A few stray garbage wrappers tumble down Lexington Avenue, the brisk night wind whipping them towards the corner of 54th Street. It's a chilly evening in Manhattan, and Eddie stands huddled near the subway entrance, cold and hungry.

Like nearly 50,000 other New Yorkers, Eddie is part of the city’s homeless population, unsure of where he’ll sleep or eat on any given night. But he knows that at least once a week, students from St. John’s University will stop by to provide food, clothing and — most importantly — friendship.
“This is a blessing,” Eddie says, as a St. John’s Campus Ministry van pulls up and parks at the corner. Ten students hop out and unload clothes, jackets, blankets, coffee, soup and freshly-made sandwiches, ready to distribute them to those living on the streets.

It’s the first of four stops on that night’s Midnight Run, a weekly program that brings students into Manhattan to provide unsheltered individuals with food and supplies.

“There are still people in this world who care,” Eddie says, walking up to the students and exchanging hellos. “No matter how many people might kick you while you’re down, there’s always someone there to pick you up.”

It’s precisely this type of interaction — a warm, friendly exchange of both goods and conversation — that has made Midnight Run one of the most popular service initiatives at St. John’s. More than 30 runs are held each semester, with around 10 students attending each of them.

On this particular run, Erin Kennedy ’13C serves as the Campus Ministry Student Assistant (CMSA), helping to arrange and coordinate the logistics behind the trip. As the students continue to distribute soup and coffee, she takes a minute to reflect on how the program has transformed her life.

“I have trouble talking about those I serve,” she says, “because I don’t think about them as homeless. I think about them as my friends.”

Established in 1984, Midnight Run is a volunteer organization seeking to provide basic necessities to those living on the streets of New York City. At the same time, it establishes a common ground between the housed and the homeless, forging a bond based in mutual caring and understanding.

Today, a variety of churches, colleges and companies throughout New York participate in Midnight Run, and, for the last decade, St. John’s students have been some of the strongest contributors.

“We first did a Midnight Run in November of 2003,” said Angela Seegel ’98Ed, ’04Ed, a Campus Minister at St. John’s who initially coordinated the program on the Queens campus. “It was a transformational experience, and it really got our students talking. By the following semester, we were hosting a handful of runs, each one filled to capacity with student volunteers. That’s when we knew we had something big on our hands.”

A typical Midnight Run starts at 8 p.m. when a group of students meet on the second floor of O’Connor Hall in the Residence Village. They prepare 60 sandwiches — ham, turkey and peanut-butter-and-jelly — and load them, along...
8:05 PM
Student participants assemble in O’Connor to make 50 sandwiches, packing them with juice and snacks.

9:12 PM
All of the supplies are loaded into a St. John’s Campus Ministry van as the students head into Manhattan.
“This is a blessing. There are still people in this world who care. No matter how many people might kick you while you’re down, there’s always someone there to pick you up.” – Eddie
with stacks of donated clothing, onto a Campus Ministry van. Then they hit the streets, driving into Manhattan and stopping at a number of locations provided to them by the Midnight Run organization.

At each stop, the students meet and interact with homeless individuals, resulting in the program’s most inspirational moments. “Simply being with people and building a community with one another — that’s how lives are changed,” Seegel added. “Those are the moments that transform our students, coming face-to-face with those in need.”

By around 1 a.m., the students have made the necessary stops and have usually distributed all of the sandwiches and clothing. On the ride back to campus, they chat with one another about what they saw, the people they met and the conversations they had.

According to Pamela G. Shea-Byrnes, Ed.D. ’86SVC, ’90G, Vice President for University Ministry and University Events, this moment of reflection is what makes the program so unique. “Without question, that’s what makes the experience distinctively Vincentian,” she explained, “getting students to think about the why behind what they do. By reflecting on what they saw and sharing their ideas with one another, they realize that it’s not just about helping people — it’s about seeing the face of God in those they serve. The meaning behind service is just as important as the service itself, and that’s how you bring about systemic change.”

And, as Shea-Byrnes is quick to point out, the program has a very real impact on the students who participate, as evidenced by a staggering number of recent graduates. From altering their career ambitions to simply strengthening their faith, Midnight Run’s influence on students is far and wide, serving as a true testament to the way Vincentian service can transform young men and women.

“It changes your entire way of thinking,” Shea-Byrnes said. “Alumni always come back and tell me how Midnight Run allowed them to find meaning in their own lives through the good that they have done.” Indeed, alumni stories are as varied as they are many. Annemarie Harr ’10C, ’12G, for example, served on Midnight Run her entire time at St. John’s, working as both a CMSA and a Graduate Assistant in Campus Ministry. Ultimately, that experience inspired her to pursue a law degree with a concentration in child homelessness, hoping to one day work within the legal system to eliminate this dire epidemic.

Michael Yurik ’09C, ’10G, meanwhile, frequently references Midnight Run as one of the driving forces in his decision to lead a life dedicated to service. Today, he is studying at a seminary to become a pastor, a role that will allow him to further pursue his faith and Vincentian charity.

And then there’s Kevin Whelan ’10CPS, a young alumnus who never made service a top priority in his life until he started getting involved in Midnight Run. During his freshman year, he decided to participate in the program on a whim and now, six years later, he finds that outreach initiatives are a major part of his life.

He looks back on one moment in particular as having sparked that transformation. “It was during one of the first runs I went on,” Whelan recalled. “We had no more jackets left to distribute, and a homeless man came up to us in need of warmth. So, another freshman literally took the sweatshirt off of his own back and gave it to the man, telling him, ‘You need this a lot more than I do.’”

But, as Whelan remembers, it’s what happened next that left the greatest impression. “Another homeless man had seen what just happened,” Whelan continued. “That man walked up to the student and said, ‘One day,
you’ll be in Heaven for what you did, and when you meet Jesus, He’ll ask you: do you remember when you gave me that sweatshirt?’”

Whelan smiles as he retells the story.

“That’s what brought it all together for me,” he said. “That’s the moment I’ll remember for the rest of my life.”

Midnight Run is a transformative program, but it’s certainly not the only service initiative bringing St. John’s students onto the streets of Manhattan. Project HOPE (Homeless Outreach Population Estimate) takes a similar approach, but strives to effect measurable governmental change.

Created by the NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS), HOPE takes place on one night each year, sending thousands of volunteers across the five boroughs to conduct a street survey of New York’s unsheltered population. This survey is necessary to help ensure funding for homeless services, and hundreds of St. John’s students sign up each year to do their part.

Typically, the census takes place on a frigid night in January, from around midnight to 5 a.m. Groups of volunteers scour every neighborhood throughout the city, speaking with homeless individuals that they encounter and recording a variety of information for the DHS.

“The city’s high-need areas change from year to year,” said Natalie Maio ’02PD, Associate Director of Leadership Development in the Office of Student Life. “Our students understand that it’s a freezing and difficult night, but it allows them to put a face to the number, to see what homelessness truly looks like. They realize that poverty is so much more than just a statistic.”

Nearly 300 St. John’s students signed up to participate in the 2013 Project HOPE, and many of them have called the experience nothing short of life-changing.

“One of the questions we’d ask the homeless men and women was whether they were veterans,” said Sean Brooks ’13C, whose group was tasked with surveying the area around Penn Station in Midtown Manhattan. “I was flat-out amazed at how many veterans we found — proud people who, due to unfortunate circumstances, were forced to live on the streets.”

Brooks remembers one homeless veteran in particular whose story moved him.

“It was heartbreaking,” Brooks recalled, “absolutely heartbreaking. This man was so kind and so upbeat — it was like talking to a family member or a friend — and here he was living on the curb. Afterwards, my group and I discussed how meeting people like him really shattered our preconceived notions about homelessness.”

The same can be said for Chris Porcelli ’13C, who walked away from Project HOPE with a completely altered perspective on the city he calls home.

“You’d be surprised how different New York looks at 2 a.m. on a freezing night in January,” he said. “During the day, these are areas where most of us go shopping or go to the theater. But, 12 hours later, we see a staggering amount of homeless individuals. To seek them out for a change — to show them kindness and consideration — was a really unique and rewarding experience.”

But what makes Project HOPE so meaningful are its results, the tangible proof that it is effectively reducing homelessness in New York. Since the very first street survey in 2005, the census numbers show that the number of
homeless individuals living in public places has decreased by 26%, meaning there are approximately 1,133 fewer New Yorkers sleeping on streets, in parks or in subways.

St. John’s students typically represent one of the largest contingents of HOPE volunteers, and, in recognition of this, DHS Commissioner Seth Diamond came to campus this past year on the night of the event to deliver a pep talk and even accompany some students on their journey through their assigned neighborhoods.

It’s all part of the University’s longstanding and strong relationship with the city of New York, one that Kathryn Hutchinson, Ph.D. ’92G, Vice President for Student Affairs, notes is mutually beneficial.

“New York is part of the St. John’s experience,” she explained. “It’s a microcosm right in our backyard, and our students use it like a laboratory. When they see tangible results, like with HOPE, it emboldens them. By making a real difference in this community, it makes them more inclined to serve after graduation and throughout their lives.”

According to Victoria Santangelo ’98C, ’01GEd, ’11G, Executive Director of Campus Ministry, opportunities like HOPE — moments of direct interaction with the underserved here in New York — ultimately have worldwide ramifications, instilling a strong sense of social justice in students that extends well beyond their four years at the University.

“It’s a bit of a cliché, but I always refer to the phrase, ‘Think globally, act locally,’” she noted. “Students take their experiences here and, after they graduate, seek similar initiatives later in life through their job, their community or their parish. They bring that zest for service with them to their communities near and far, making a difference literally all across the world.”

It’s now 12:30 a.m., and the Campus Ministry van is heading towards its final stop of the night. At the previous destination — St. Bart’s on Park Avenue — students distributed sandwiches to a handful of homeless individuals, including a grandmotherly woman named Peaches, a Midnight Run regular. Peaches had stood on the curb, bundled in her winter coat, hood pulled tightly around her head, as students scooped her warm soup and chatted with her about local news, politics and the weather.

As the van rolls down 5th Avenue, the students discuss some of the heartbreaking stories they’ve encountered on tonight’s run. “It’s so true,” says Lauren Ippolito ’16Ed. “St. Vincent was a humble man,” she tells the other students, “someone who lived for others. That’s what we need to do — build a community of understanding with everyone.”

Kennedy sits in the passenger seat and nods in approval. As a CMSA, she attended runs for years and was profoundly impacted by service at St. John’s. She graduated in May 2013 and now dreams of becoming a public servant in order to make a direct, legislative impact on homelessness. “Can you imagine how you’d feel if 90% of the day, no one spoke to you? To be practically invisible to the average New Yorker? There’s something very wrong with that.”

The van turns onto 52nd Street and approaches the final stop. Before the students can hop out and once again enter the cold city air, Kennedy looks back and reminds them of one of her favorite Midnight Run expressions: “We may run out of food, we may run out of clothes, but we will never run out of conversation.”

And, with that, the students exit the van, ready for another stop on another Midnight Run, armed only with sandwiches, clothing, soup and a wealth of compassion.

“We had no more jackets left to distribute, and a homeless man came up to us in need of warmth. So, another freshman literally took the sweatshirt off of his own back and gave it to the man, telling him, ‘You need this a lot more than I do.’” — Kevin Whelan ’10CPS
“I am very happy to
University Welcomes New President

On August 1, 2013 Rev. Joseph L. Levesque, C.M., S.T.D. began his first day as Interim President of St. John’s University, succeeding Rev. Donald J. Harrington, C.M. who retired on July 31. Fittingly, Fr. Levesque’s first official act was to celebrate Mass for the University community in St. Thomas More Church.

“I begin my presidency at St. John’s University today and can think of no better way to start than to gather together and pray,” he said.

be here with all of you.”
Seeing him on the altar, many would be surprised to learn that his journey to the priesthood, and ultimately to St. John’s, took a few turns along the way.

He grew up in the community of North Tarrytown, NY. He had no desire to enter the field of education, and in fact his father wanted him to pursue a career in business. But God had other plans for this deeply religious young man.

“I was in high school and I wasn’t quite sure where I was going to go to college,” he said. “I asked myself what difference I could make in the world, and what I could do that was really going to please me and have some significance for others. And my answer was that I would become a priest. I made that decision when I was quite young. And I haven’t regretted it for a moment!”

After his 1967 ordination as a Vincentian priest, he was initially assigned to teach religion at St. John’s Preparatory High School in Brooklyn and then at St. Joseph’s Seminary in Princeton, NJ. In 1970 he became a member of the Religious Studies Department of Niagara University. After a few years in the classroom he left to pursue a doctoral degree in Theology at Catholic University, and when he returned to Niagara was named Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Director of the College’s graduate division.

“Education was something that was out of my mind until I was ordained,” he said. “I could have been a preacher, I could have been sent to work on the missions in Panama. But the Vincentian community said to me that they would like me to go and start teaching. So that’s what I did. And I liked it, especially the interaction with the students on the college level.”

Not only were his skills in the classroom apparent; equally visible were his abilities as an administrator. In 1986 he was named President of St. Joseph’s Seminary, and four years later he became Provincial Superior of the Eastern Province of the Congregation of the Mission.
Education was something that was out of my mind until I was ordained…but the Vincentian community said to me that they would like me to go and start teaching. So that’s what I did. And I liked it, especially the interaction with the students on the college level.

It was as Provincial Superior that Fr. Levesque had his first real introduction to St. John’s. He served as Chairman of the St. John’s Board of Trustees, where he was instrumental in helping to guide the University through a period of unprecedented growth. It was during those years that St. John’s transitioned from a local commuter school to one of the world’s most respected universities with an international reputation for excellence.

He recalled the challenges that faced the Board members as they sought to take St. John’s to the next level.

“At some of the Board meetings we struggled with the question of whether we could really
afford to do this,” he said. “Can we really turn St. John’s into something new and different? Are we committed to making these decisions? Are we committed to following through? It struck me tremendously how strategic this was, and how the Board members sitting in that room had to make important decisions for the future with the need to seek additional resources that would allow it to expand its student base, improve its facilities and add new and exciting academic offerings. The new President ultimately decided that a multi-year capital campaign would be the most effective way to generate the financial support needed to accomplish what everyone agreed had to be done. He believed that a goal of $80 million was ambitious but achievable, and was ultimately proved right when the campaign exceeded its goal by $2 million.

“I was ready to commit myself to a lot of work on the capital campaign,” he said. “Our student body was growing, we had more classes and we needed more offices. Our Science building was antediluvian; it was really ancient and we had to get a new one. Our School of Education didn’t have a place to go so we had to get the School of Education some facilities. The School of Business had a place, but it needed refurbishing. And we built apartments for our students, because they didn’t want to live in regular dorms.”

After 13 years as President of Niagara University, Fr. Levesque felt that it was time for him to step away.

Whenever I meet the students at St. John’s, they’re happy. All I have to do is wave, and they wave back. I don’t know if they know that I’m the President, but they’re such a friendly group!

of a lot of people. And now we see the truth that these were wise decisions.”

After serving for nine years as Provincial Superior, Fr. Levesque remained as a St. John’s Trustee even after heading back upstate to his beloved Niagara University. He assumed that he would return to teaching, but just as in his earlier days, God had different plans. In 2000 he was asked by the Vincentian community and the Niagara Board of Trustees to assume the presidency and, after careful thought and prayerful consideration, agreed to take on what he knew would be another significant challenge.

As was the case with nearly every college or university at the beginning of the new century, Niagara was faced
Students are very focused on the mission. They love the idea that they’re here not only to learn, but to use that learning to serve others. So I don’t think I have to do a whole lot except reinforce what’s happening with the mission. The students have it. The faculty has it. The administration has it.

Reflecting on his priorities for the upcoming months, Fr. Levesque acknowledges that furthering St. John’s Vincentian mission of service to others will always be at the top of his list. The Vincentian charism is a defining aspect of his life, and he is pleased to see that it has been woven into every facet of the St. John’s experience.

With that solid foundation already in place, he would like to see even greater opportunities to embrace the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul in the future.

“Students are very focused on the mission,” he observed. “They love the idea that they’re here not only to learn, but to use that learning to serve others. So I don’t think I have to do a whole lot except reinforce what’s happening with the mission. The students have it. The faculty has it. The administration has it. We just have to keep expanding it by finding new and better ways to serve the poor.”

He is equally concerned with enhancing the University’s commitment to global diversity, a reality that he strongly believes is related to the Vincentian commitment to service. The establishment of St. John’s campus in Rome and the creation of the Paris location speak volumes about the need to give students a worldwide perspective and an appreciation of the issues that everyone faces, no matter where they live.

He applauds the fact that students come to St. John’s from all around the world, ensuring that everyone within the University community is exposed to and learns to appreciate the contributions of different cultures to the world-at-large.

“This is one of the most diverse colleges or universities that you’ll find anywhere in the United States,” he noted, “and I think that’s unique. St. John’s knows what global means.

We are reaching out and students are coming here, and we have to continue to do that. We want not only to bring students here but maybe even establish centers in other countries, especially Third World countries.”

Even though he has only been on campus for a few months, Fr. Levesque has already impressed the St. John’s family with his sincerity, genuine humility and deep spirituality. His willingness to adopt an open door policy makes him accessible to everyone, and while he readily acknowledges the challenges that the University confronts on a regular basis, he is convinced that its past achievements will form the basis for even greater accomplishments in the future.

And how does he feel about making the decision to postpone retirement and assume the leadership of St. John’s? Smiling broadly, his answer is as simple as it is profound.

“I love it!”

To view the video interview with Fr. Levesque, please visit www.stjohns.edu/fall13mag
A Brand New Chapter for SJU

Starting this year, an old chant will roar again at Carnesecca Arena:

“SJU! SJU! SJU!”
It’s all part of St. John’s University’s new brand platform, which was officially launched this academic year and has already swept campus by storm. In addition to the long-awaited return of the “SJU” abbreviation, the brand features a bold, updated look and reintroduces blue into the University’s official color scheme.

“When I first came on board at St. John’s, we began planning for the ‘new era’ of the University,” said Hallie G. Sammartino, Ph.D., Vice President for Marketing and Communications, who oversaw the brand design and launch. “Alumni, more than anyone, know our history and tradition, so they were a critical group to consult and keep in mind as we developed the platform.”
Indeed, the new logo and crest harken back to St. John’s traditional visual identity and emphasizes five ‘chapters’ that are crucial to the St. John’s story: academic excellence without borders; the power of a global city and a world campus; faith, success and service; an alumni network that opens doors; and New York City’s team. This ‘story’ was determined after a yearlong study in collaboration with Simpson-Scarborough, a leader in higher education market research, which surveyed more than 3,000 participants.

Students have already embraced this exciting new identity, chanting “SJU” at every athletic event and wearing hoodies, t-shirts and sweatshirts displaying the updated crest and logo. Alumni, too, have been enthusiastic about the change.

“This new brand is like a rallying cry for my fellow graduates,” said Anthony Giardina ’85C. “You wouldn’t believe how happy my friends are to have the ‘SJU’ back, along with the color scheme, the crest, the chants — this is how it’s always been at St. John’s, and we’re glad to have it back.”

As a student, Giardina had the unique distinction of serving as the St. John’s mascot when the Men’s Basketball team reached the NCAA Final Four, so he knows a thing or two about school spirit.

“What’s amazing to me, and what I take particular pride in, is that a St. John’s degree is worth more today than it was when I graduated,” he explained. “Moving forward, it’s important for SJU to publicize that fact, and continue to ask itself: how do we market the value of a St. John’s education?”

As Sammartino noted, the brand ‘chapters’ answer that very question, taking key attributes for which St. John’s is widely known today and using them as a springboard to pinpoint what will distinguish the institution tomorrow.

“These five ‘chapters’ give us a unified message, and one that we believe all members of the St. John’s community can take pride in,” she said. “To develop that message, we turned to alumni to help us identify points of distinctiveness: they absolutely love our commitment to Vincentian service, they want...
“You wouldn’t believe how happy my friends are to have the ’SJU’ back, along with the color scheme, the crest, the chants — this is how it’s always been at St. John’s, and we’re glad to have it back.” — Anthony Giardina ’85C

to see the University continue to enhance its academic stature and they share a strong passion for athletics. With this new brand, these attributes are now a part of our messaging platform.”

Over the summer, the University began rolling out its new graphic identity across communications and facilities, and administrators hope that by the summer of 2014, all signage across each campus will reflect the new logo. Additionally, a new University Web site will be launched in the near future, while an athletics rebrand is in the works for the 2014 academic year.

With the recent installation of Rev. Joseph L. Levesque, C.M. as University President, St. John’s is clearly starting a new chapter, one that builds on its previous 143 years of storied tradition. And, as Giardina points out, what makes this new brand so exciting is how it perfectly captures that rich history.

“As an institution, St. John’s is much bigger than any abbreviation or color scheme,” he explained. “In fact, you could call St. John’s anything you want, for all I care, and it doesn’t matter — at the end of the day, what we are is simple: a University that cares for others, that provides a world-class, global education and takes pride in its athletics. And the new brand reaffirms that.”

He added, “It’s a great reminder, quite simply, that we are St. John’s.”

To view a video about the University’s new brand please visit www.stjohns.edu/fall13mag
Queens Campus Food Spaces

Dining on the Queens campus became more enjoyable with the renovations of three popular food service locations. Visitors to the St. Augustine Café can now indulge in a variety of healthy smoothies and frozen yogurt specialties created by Red Mango. The Red Storm Diner in St. Vincent Hall has been transformed with a 1950s retro look where students can enjoy the convenience and safety of on-campus late night dining. And the cafeteria in St. John’s School of Law, which now features amenities that include freshly baked bread and a Starbucks facility, has become more comfortable for diners with an open and spacious look.

Little Theatre Sign

There's a new marquis for The Little Theatre, home to the Chappell Players Theatre Group on the Queens campus. Productions and other events are still displayed above the doors, but now those messages can be seen on a newly installed, totally electronic sign. The sign is programmable by computer, and the more modern, colorful look makes it an attractive addition to this popular on-campus facility.
DaSilva Track

Having been in place for more than 15 years, the DaSilva Track on the Queens campus had outlived its life expectancy and was in need of renovation to meet NCAA Division I standards. A major portion of the reconstruction involved resurfacing the entire track and the installation of a new drainage system to alleviate the problem of water accumulation that had been an issue in the past. The new track now includes designated areas for shot put, discus and hammer throw, long jump and pole vault.

Career Services Center

Recognizing the importance of career preparation for St. John’s students, the Career Services Center on the Queens campus has been relocated to new facilities in Chiang Ching-Kuo Hall. Designed to meet the needs of students, alumni and potential employers, the space features amenities such as private interview rooms, Internet connectivity and an orientation room in which company representatives can address groups of students about the opportunities for internships and employment available within their organization.

Employee Training Room

Reflecting the significant increase in training programs offered to St. John’s employees, an Employee Training Room has been created on the Queens campus. Located adjacent to the Office of Human Resources in the University Center, the facility features modern audio-visual equipment, adjustable lighting, white boards and flat screen monitors situated in strategic places around the room. The room is equipped for computer conferencing, allowing for interactive linkages with other campuses. Moveable seating is designed to allow participants to arrange into either large or small groups depending upon the specific activities of the training or conferencing session.
The ongoing commitment of our donors to the values and ideals upon which St. John’s University is based reflects the enduring importance of St. John’s in their lives. It is a wonderful testament to their desire to show their appreciation to the University that has done so much for them, and for so many others.

St. John’s would not be what it is today without the generosity of the alumni and friends who share their resources with us. Every donor has a personal reason for giving, one that is uniquely his or her own. Some are committed to supporting athletics, others make gifts to enhance a particular campus or academic program and still others feel an affinity to a specific scholarship or fund. Yet whatever their motivation or interest, they all share the conviction that the University holds a singular place among their charitable goals.

The donors listed are among the University’s most generous. Their gifts allow us to continue to nurture our students by providing them with an academic, spiritual and cultural environment that is uniquely St. John’s. We are grateful for their exceptional generosity.
"I got a great education at St. John's, and wonderful values that have stayed with me throughout my life. I decided that it was time for me to give back in ways that would help the University's students succeed today and for the rest of their lives."

JAMES CHRISTMAS ’70CBA
Anonymous
Emmet J. Agoglia ’58L  
K. Carroll Agoglia  
Salah Uddin Ahmed ’85GP, ’90Ph.D.  
Andrea M. Alonso ’78C, ’81L  
Jeffrey D. Alter ’84CBA, ’88MBA  
Lisa Ann Alter  
Michael E. Anglin ’70CBA, ’79MBA  
Frances Babb  
Andrew J. Bartilucci, Ph.D. ’44P, ’98Hon  
Lucy A. Bartilucci  
Harry R. Beeth ’67CBA, ’70MBA  
Vanna Beeth  
Jerome Belson ’48L, ’80HON  
John R. Bender ’87CBA  
Alanna Bender  
Bruce R. Bent ’61CBA, ’79HON  
Nancy A. Bent ’06Ph.D.  

“i’ve endowed a scholarship to honor prof. robert esernio ’66CBA because i believe that contributions to the university should be made more often in recognition of a specific person or cause. prof. esernio’s pursuit of excellence and insistence on hard work set, by example, the standard for his students long after leaving st. john’s. i encourage others to contribute to st. john’s and to the esernio scholarship.”  

J. TIMOTHY HARRINGTON ’64CBA
Mary Ellen Kelley
James P. Kelly '51C, '99HON
Rosaleen Kelly
Mary A. Kennedy '66Ed
Elizabeth H. Gorman and Mark P. Kitzman '73CBA
Virginia Klein
William C. Klein
Mark Kotowski
Jeff and Leah Kronthal
Grace Ku
Lawrence Kugelman '66C
Frank L. Kurre '84CBA
Carol Louisa Kwiat '63Ed
Kenneth B. Kwiat '68MBA
Joan M. Lacagnina '88CBA
Thomas Michael Laqueria '69L

“Father Jose Pando C.M. was the best educational advisor I ever had. He was kind to every student he met in University College at the Schermerhorn Street campus. Fr. Pando had a sharp mind, a ready ear and an open door and he always treated the students with great respect. He helped many of us to realize and seek out our potential and to explore further professional studies — in my case it was medical school. Fr. Pando’s kindness is the reason I support St. John’s University with my gifts to the Fr. Jose C. Pando C.M. Scholarship Fund. It makes me glad that Fr. Pando’s legacy is still helping students today.”

JOAN C. DOBBS, M.D., FACPUC '56UC

Frank P. Le Veness '63Ed, '64G, '68Ph.D.
Michael LeConte
Loida Nicolas Lewis
Samuel S. Lionel '40L
Bridgett Lundy
Lina Ma '87CBA, '89MBA
Mrs. Ralph J. Manganelli
Estate of Gloria Marsloe
Glenn Martin
Joseph M. Mattone, Sr. '53C, '55L, '94HON
Mary Ann Mattone '10HON
Joseph Mauriello '66CBA, '72MBA
Mary Mauriello
Christina McConville
John P. McConville '62L
JoAnn McDermott Reed
Paula G. McInerney
Thomas E. McInerney '64UC, '01HON
Philip McManus '68C, '72L
Ing. Francesco Merlone
Elizabeth Mirante
Arthur J. Mirante, II '68L, '98HON
Matthew C. Mirchin '82SC
H. Elizabeth Mitchell
Anissa R. Shannon '89SC, '91Ed
Anita R. Depaola Murphy '85MBA
Stephen V. Murphy '85MBA
Begum Shamsun Naher
Marie E. Kaiser-Napolitano '89C, '93L
Paul J. Napoli '92L
Mary Ellen Nerod
Richard C. Nerod '59C
Robert James Nobile '84L
Brian E. O’Connor '74C, '77L
Helen M. O’Connor
Kerry Orlich
Robert F. Orlich '69CBA, '75MBA
Jeanine Palladino '86SC
Michael Palladino '87CBA
Adeline Pannizzo
Frank J. Pannizzo '96L, '82L
Joanne Panzarella '77C, '85MBA
Mark G. Pedretti '92L
Estate of Leo W. Pierce, Sr. '39C, '99HON
Charles Plisso '76SC, '78G, '86MBA
Estate of Joan Marie Pozzi '73C, '82MBA
Thomas J. Principe '69C, '73L
Thomas J. Quinlan, III '90MBA
Kevin F. Reed '75C
Mark L. Regante '78L
Paul J. Reilly '79CBA
Maria Repole
Michael Repole '91SC
Salvatore Restivo '82CBA, '89MBA
Bernard F. Reynolds '67C
Denise Rhodes
Cheryl Christian Rice
Thomas C. Rice '78C, '81L
Ellen Riley
James P. Riley, Jr. '74CBA, '75MBA, '03HON
Shannon Riley
“St. John’s has stayed true to its mission which is to help students who really need the boost, a wonderful gift. Alumni support ensures that St. John’s will continue to carry out its important mission. And personally, the scholarship and education that I received provided the foundation to have a successful business and personal life. I owe much to St. John’s in return.”

— JAMES H. DENIKE ’53C, ’84HON

Joseph V. Taranto
Frank L. Teixeira ’89CBA
Joseph J. Tock ’81SCV, ’83L
Nga T. Tran-Pedretti
Anthony P. Tufaro, D.D.S., M.D. ’76C
Florence Tutunjian ⊠
John P. Tutunjian ’59UC ⊠
Mary Ellen Welk Van Sise ’74C
Elizabeth K. Venuti
Michael Venuti ’84CBA
Douglas G. Vetter ’88C, ’91L
Andrew Vindigni
Mary Kay Vyskocil ’83L
Jeffry S. Wengroff ’73CBA and the Wengroff Family
Kara Whelan
Martin P. Whelan ’84CBA
Judith A. Wild
Robert Andrew Wild ’67L
Paul C. Wirth ’79CBA
Theresa Wirth
Anthony Zito ’95C, ’01MBA
Salvatore J. Zizza ’67UC, ’72MBA, ’07HON

† deceased
⊙ McCallen Society Member

“Supporting St. Johns University sustains a great cause towards human prosperity. The University offers a world class education to multicultural students in a diversified area of expertise. Being at the nucleus of one of the largest cities in the world, it also exposes students to the diversity of socio-economic fields, shaping the academic mind and offering a path forward to find out who would one like to be to bring the best in oneself.”

— SALAH AHMED ’85GP, ’90PH.D.
We Appreciate Our Most Generous Donors

Golfers Support Scholarship for St. John’s Students

When St. John’s alumni enjoy the many university-sponsored opportunities to get together for a day of golf, they’re doing more than simply engaging in friendly competition while trying to make that elusive hole-in-one. Their support is providing much needed financial assistance to deserving students seeking to pursue their St. John’s education.

These popular events appeal to a variety of alumni within the University family. Some are sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations, others by the School of Risk Management and still others by the Office of Athletic Development. During the past few months they have collectively raised more than $475,000 for student scholarships.

“Our golf outings are incredibly important,” noted Scott A. Williams, Associate Vice President, Office of Alumni Relations, “because without the resources that come in through these events, many of the students who are looking to come to or stay at St. John’s wouldn’t have that opportunity. And it’s a great way for our alumni to enjoy a day of golf and catch up with good friends, while at the same time doing something really important for the students who benefit from their support.”

Lisa Pinkard ’14CPS and Artiana Wynder ’16CPS are both recipients of financial assistance provided by The Long Island Alumni Golf Outing Scholarship Fund. Both acknowledge that without their scholarship, they would be unable to remain at the University.

Pinkard came to St. John’s as a transfer student hoping to earn a degree in Legal Studies at the College of Professional Studies. She is a single mother who works full-time to support herself and her three children while completing the requirements for her undergraduate degree. A hard-working student with a 3.7 G.P.A., she hopes to go to St. John’s School of Law if her financial situation improves.

In the meantime, she readily acknowledges that her scholarship is the difference that allows her to stay in school and complete her undergraduate degree.

“My scholarship is really a blessing from God,” she said. “Without that help I would not be able to attend college, and I’d never have the future that I’m envisioning for me and my family. As a single mom with three children, I need to work full-time to support them and pay tuition for their education as well. Every day is a faith walk for me, and I’m so grateful to the donors who make it possible for me to stay in school. They may not realize it, but they are really doing God’s work.”

Wynder’s scholarship has also had a significant impact for her and her family. A Sophomore majoring in Communications, her ultimate career aspiration is to become a Fashion Editor of a leading magazine.

She is currently active in many Campus Ministry initiatives, including participation in Midnight Runs, where she brings food and clothing to the homeless who live on the streets of New York City. Her service activities are a way of showing her appreciation for what the University, through the generosity of its alumni, is doing for her.

“I can’t even explain how grateful I am to the alumni who so generously make these student scholarships possible,” she said. “I was never expecting to receive this award, and it was a wonderful surprise for me and my family. I love that the alumni are so generous and so willing to give back to St. John’s. This scholarship is helping me and my family very much, and I will appreciate it forever.”

Alumni participation in golf outings is all about having fun while doing good. And that’s a great combination!
It was a special night for St. John’s University as alumni and friends gathered at The Waldorf Astoria in New York for the 16th Annual President’s Dinner. The event raised more than $2 million for student scholarships and honored four alumni who embody the University’s mission of improving the lives of others with the prestigious Spirit of Service Award.

“It’s very clear that you believe in St. John’s, and in our efforts to make a lasting difference in our world,” remarked St. John’s University President Joseph L. Levesque, C.M., S.T.d. “It’s also clear that you believe in the promise that St. John’s will always offer hope to the hopeless and help to the helpless. Your support allows us to continue our 143 year commitment to educational excellence for our students and compassionate service to those in need.”

As is traditional at every President’s Dinner, the Spirit of Service Award is presented to exceptional individuals who have chosen to embrace the University’s long-standing mission of service as their own. This year’s recipients were particularly unique, as they were all St. John’s alumni.

The honorees included John P. Clarke ’55CBA, ’57L, Professor, St. John’s University; Robert Kalenka ’84CBA, ’91MBA, Corporate Vice President, Broadridge; and Peggy (’68Ed) and Bill Montgoris ’67CBA, ’88HON.

A member of the St. John’s family since the early 1950s, John Clarke began what would become a lifelong association with the University when he became an undergraduate student on the Schermerhorn Street campus in downtown Brooklyn. He continued his studies at St. John’s School of Law, and two years after earning his J.D. degree joined the University as Director of Alumni Relations. In 1967 he became a faculty member in the College of Business Administration as an Associate Professor of Law, a position he held for 30 years.

Clarke retired in 1997, but returned to St. John’s in 2006 as Chairman of the Department of Law at what is now The Peter J. Tobin College of Business. Known for his genuine concern for the students fortunate enough to study under his mentorship, he is considered one of the University’s most esteemed and respected professors.

Robert Kalenka earned his B.S. in Accounting in 1984 and his M.B.A. in Finance in 1991, both from St. John’s College of Business Administration.

Scholarships and Service
Take Center Stage at
President’s Dinner

His highly successful career in the financial services industry began immediately after his undergraduate graduation and progressed through senior executive positions at a number of firms. In the true spirit of St. Vincent de Paul, he embraces his position at Broadridge as an opportunity to both manage and mentor his colleagues in caring, compassionate ways, helping them to achieve their greatest potential.

Kalenka serves as a gifted instructor in the Executive-in-Residence program, where he discusses current business issues with St. John’s honor students, inspiring them to follow in his footsteps. He is a member of The Peter J. Tobin College of Business Advisory Board, and offers valuable insights as a member of St. John’s Board of Governors, a group that advises the University’s President and Board of Trustees on strategic issues relating to St. John’s.

Both Bill and Peggy Montgoris reflect the St. John’s mission of service in a variety of ways. They support a wide range of institutions and initiatives, including Colby College, Dartmouth College, the Hackensack University Medical Center, the Immaculate Heart Academy and Covenant House, where Bill was a member of the Board of Directors for 10 years.
At St. John’s they are members of The Founders Society, the University’s most prestigious donor recognition group, and together served as Co-Chairpersons of The Campaign for St. John’s – Fulfilling the Dream, the most successful capital campaign in University history. Bill also shared his time and talents as a member of St. John’s Board of Trustees and its Executive, Fiscal Resource Management, and Facilities committees and as longtime Chair of the Institutional Advancement committee. He was named Trustee Emeritus in September 2009.

Supporting the President’s Dinner has always been a way for alumni to show their appreciation for how St. John’s helped them to develop the academic skills and personal values that have made a lasting difference in their lives. Their participation also allows them to make a connection with current and future students who will benefit from their help.

“I’ve been to a number of President’s Dinners,” remarked Arthur Bregartner ’72SVC, “and it makes me feel good to know that I’m doing something to keep the University strong and helping its students at the same time. For me, that’s what being a part of the St. John’s family is all about.”
For the members of The McCallen Society, the future of St. John’s University has already begun. They strongly believe in the University, and have invested in it by including St. John’s in their estate plans. And both their numbers and their generosity are on the rise.

At the Annual McCallen Society Recognition Mass and Luncheon, they were happy to learn that their membership has increased to an all-time high of 571, with 30 new members joining within the past year. Collectively, they contributed more than $2.3 million to the University during the past fiscal year, a striking reflection of their desire to keep St. John’s strong for years to come.

That exceptional generosity has had an immediate and lasting impact that has been felt throughout the University. In addition to supporting scholarship assistance for deserving students, it has provided much-needed resources for enhanced academic programs and improved campus facilities. It has also helped St. John’s to fulfill its Vincentian mission of reaching out to those in need.

“As members of The McCallen Society, you are ensuring that the values which we cherish so dearly will be passed along to our students, and our world, for generations to come,” noted St. John’s University President Rev. Joseph L. Levesque, C.M., S.T.D. “I know that our mission has touched each of us to the very core of our existence. Without your support, the University would simply not be what it is today. Thank you for all that you have done for St. John’s.”

Maintaining a strong connection to the Vincentian community and their commitment to serving the needs of others is nothing new to Jack Scheich ’63C, ’66L. During elementary school he served as an altar boy at St. John the Baptist Church in Brooklyn, and then went on to spend four years at St. John’s Preparatory High School. When it came time to move on to college, St. John’s was the natural choice.

With the generous financial assistance offered by the University, Scheich earned his undergraduate degree at St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and his J.D. from St. John’s School of Law. His membership in The McCallen Society reflects his lifelong appreciation for what the University did for him so many years ago.

“I would never have been able to attend these great schools without their monetary aid, because my family just couldn’t afford it,” he said. “Back then, the powers that be always made sure my tuition was paid, so I want to return the favor. And to see what’s gone on at the University — the transformation of the campus, in particular — shows me that we’ve all had a very strong and meaningful impact.”

For additional information about The McCallen Society, please contact Susan Damiani ’87CBA, Director, Office of Gift Planning, at (718) 990-7562 or e-mail damianis@stjohns.edu
The Loughlin Society is the University's leadership giving society whose members know that the future begins with today's young men and women.

Become a member to ensure our students receive a world-class education.

Visit www.stjohns.edu/loughlinsociety to learn more.

Catholic Vincentian Metropolitan
A Hardwood Celebration of BIG EAST Proportions

Anticipation was through the roof as alumni and Red Storm fans celebrated the upcoming season at An Evening with St. John's Basketball, raising $200,000 in support of St. John’s athletics.

Guests included a number of former St. John’s basketball players, in addition to student-athletes from the current men’s and women’s squads. And with the creation of a new BIG EAST Conference — one that embraces its basketball roots — the FOX Sports 1 “announcing A-Team” of Gus Johnson and Bill Raftery was on hand to serve as Masters of Ceremonies.

Throughout the night, Men’s Basketball Head Coach Steve Lavin and Women’s Basketball Head Coach Joe Tartamella ’04MBA shared their thoughts on the upcoming season, while Val Ackerman, Commissioner of the BIG EAST Conference, spoke about what fans can expect from the conference in its inaugural year.

“The theme tonight is the celebration of the rejuvenated and refreshed BIG EAST,” said Director of Athletics Chris Monasch ’81SVC. “So we thought that there was simply no better way to celebrate than to have FOX Sports, our media partner, here with Gus and Bill, and have commissioner Ackerman in attendance as well.”

Jubilarian Society Dinner

Remember when regular gas was 30 cents a gallon, a first class stamp cost six cents and the World’s Fair was drawing crowds of people to Flushing Meadows? That’s what it was like 50 years ago, and if you’re a member of the Class of 1964, it probably seems like only yesterday. Come back and celebrate the 50th Anniversary of your graduation at The Jubilarian Society Dinner. If you’ve already marked this special milestone, we hope you’ll join us for a great evening of nostalgia with your former classmates.

**Saturday, May 31, 2014**

- 4 p.m. – Mass
- 5 p.m. – Cocktail Reception
- 6 p.m. – Dinner
- 8 p.m. – Dessert Reception

Queens campus

$100 per person

For complete details and to register for the event, please visit [www.stjohns.edu/jubilarian](http://www.stjohns.edu/jubilarian)
On the 12 Days of Christmas, what did St. John’s give to you?

1
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12

This Christmas, make a profound difference in students’ lives and give the gift of a St. John’s education!

Watch the music video our SJU students made and find out about all 12 Days and how you can give to them.

www.stjohns.edu/12days
St. John’s Social Media
Find old friends and former classmates — stay connected with St. John’s today!

www.facebook.com/stjohnsalumni
@stjohnsalumni
St. John’s University, Queens NY
@stjohnsalumni
www.youtube.com/stjohnsedu
www.pinterest.com/stjohnsalumni
www.flickr.com/stjohnsalumni
1930s

John Colligas ’38P celebrated his 100th birthday!

1960s

Charles Wroblewski ’63C, ’66LC was named President of the Year for District 20-K2 New York and Bermuda Lions, he is President of Seaford Lions Club in Seaford, NY.

M. Allan Hyman ’65L serves on Governor Cuomo’s Judicial Screening Committee for the Second Department and was named to the 2013 New York Super Lawyers List. He is a Senior Partner at Certilman Balin Adler & Hymann, LLP in East Meadow, NY.

James Reynolds ’66C, ’71L was inducted into the Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School Athletic Hall of Fame and currently serves on their Board of Governors in Brooklyn, NY.

Jean Powers ’68Ed, ’71G was honored by Trocaire College for her volunteer and philanthropic contributions to the College at their 2013 Reflections Scholarship Awards Dinner. She is a Partner at Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, LLP in Buffalo, NY.

1970s

Kevin Kane ’71Ed retired from Pathmark Stores after 42 years of service and moved to Florida, where he is now the Director of Human Resources at The Moorings Yacht and Country Club in Vero Beach, FL.

Gerald Carson ’72SVC retired from the United States Postal Service in Lancaster, PA and has been working as a Substitute Teacher in Lancaster County, PA.

Victoria Asta ’73Ed is a fashion designer at www.zacharyalexanderfashion.com and is in partnership with Zachary Alexander producing daywear, dancewear and evening wear.

Donald Frank ’76Ed retired as Principal after 19½ years at Weston Elementary School in Manville, NJ.

John Coane ’73CBA, ’75MBA is President and serves on the Board of Directors for Comenity Bank in Wilmington, DE.

Lorraine Korth ’77C, ’80L daughter, Kristen Grace Smith, will be performing as a Radio City Music Hall Rockette at this year’s Christmas Spectacular in New York City.

1980s

Erica Garay ’78L was named to Council of Overseers of the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts at Long Island University, CW Post campus. She is also a Chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADP) practice group. She is a Member of the Litigation Practice at Meyer, Suozzi, English and Klein, P.C. in Garden City, NY.

Joseph Barone ’79P, ’83Pharm.D. is Dean of the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University in Middlesex, NJ.

Nina Dorata ’79CBA, ’88MBA is a Professor in the Department of Accounting and Taxation for St. John’s University The Peter J. Tobin College of Business.

Peter Falotico ’79PD was a Guest Curator for the Hidden Treasures Exhibition at the Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC.

Fred Skolnik ’79L is on the Board of Long Island Matrix of Science and Technology (LIMSAT) and is a Partner in the Corporate/Securities Practice Group at Certilman Balin Adler & Hymann, LLP in East Meadow, NY.

Raymond Kelly and Anthony Bonomo Recognized for Support of Catholic Education

Hon. Raymond W. Kelly ’71L, ’98HON and Anthony J. Bonomo ’80C, ’84L were honored at the Futures in Education Foundation Annual Scholarship Dinner for their long-standing support of Catholic education in the Diocese of Brooklyn. Futures in Education provides tuition assistance and program support for deserving students in Brooklyn and Queens who are seeking to experience the benefits available only in Catholic schools.

Currently Police Commissioner of the City of New York, Kelly is the only person to serve in that position on two separate occasions. He was first appointed to the post in 1992 by Mayor David Dinkins and again in 2002 by Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Bonomo is President of Administrators for the Professions, Inc., the insurance company management organization that operates, among others, Physicians’ Reciprocal Insurers, the medical professional liability insurer for 13,000 New York doctors and more than 100 medical institutions.

Both honorees attended Catholic elementary and high schools. Kelly is a graduate of St. Gregory the Great and Archbishop Molloy High School in Queens, and Bonomo attended Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School in Brooklyn.

In addition, both are double alumni of St. John’s. Kelly earned his J.D. from St. John’s School of Law in 1971, and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws in 1998. Bonomo earned his B.A. in Government and Politics from St. John’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in 1980 and his J.D. from St. John’s School of Law in 1984.

1990s

Linda Collins ’81P was named to the College’s Board of Trustees.

Stephen D’Urso ’84CBA is Vice President and General Manager at Saks Fifth Avenue Flagship store in New York City.
Michael Aylmer Appointed as Miraval Executive

Michael Aylmer '87SVC has been named Vice President of Sales at Miraval Resort and Spa, a top-rated destination resort and spa in Tucson, AZ. In his new role he will oversee all aspects of group sales, travel industry sales and conference services for the expanding Miraval brand.

Prior to assuming his current position, Aylmer served as Regional Sales Director at Miraval before leaving for a 15 year period at KSL Resorts. While at KSL he served as Director of Northeast Sales, Senior Director of National Sales and, most recently, Regional Director of Sales for the Mid-Atlantic.

“I am thrilled to welcome back Mike Aylmer, who is a veteran of the Miraval team,” remarked Michael Tompkins, CEO of Miraval. “Mike was a vital force behind Miraval’s initial growth during his time here, and I’m confident that his extensive background in the hospitality industry will bring much success and innovation to our sales department.”

Aylmer earned his B.S. in Athletic Administration from St. Vincent’s College of St. John’s University in 1987, and was a pitcher on consecutive BIG EAST Championship baseball teams in 1985 and 1986. He was honored with the Coach Jack Kaiser Baseball Advocate Award at the recent Jack Kaiser Golf Classic. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the Baseball program upon a former player, parent or fan.

Valerie Pfundstein ‘87SVC received a Gold Level Mom’s Choice Award for her book, Veterans: Heroes in Our Neighborhood. This book is now included in the Arts in Education offerings for Eastern Suffolk BOCES (Board of Cooperative Educational Services) in Central Islip, NY.

Linda Oliva ‘88L was named one of Long Island’s Top 50 Most Influential Women in Business by the Long Island Business News for her contributions to the economy and community. She was also elected to the Board of the Nassau County Women’s Bar Association (NCWBA). Linda is an Associate at Pegalis & Erickson, LLC in Lake Success, NY.

Brian Cogan ’89SVC is an Associate Professor and Chair in the Communications Department at Molloy College in Rockville Centre, NY.

Christopher Donelan to Lead North American Reinsurance

Christopher Donelan ’90SVC, ’99TCI has been named President and Chief Underwriting Officer of Endurance Re U.S. He joins Endurance from Axis Re, where he was President and Chief Underwriting Officer for the company’s U.S. operations.

Donelan has previously served as Vice President/Manager of the Professional Liability Division of Gerling Global Reinsurance Corporation of America. His prior experience includes managing ceded reinsurance with American International group and serving as a Senior Claims Examiner with Tokio Re and Allstate Insurance Company.

“The addition of Chris will significantly strengthen our underwriting and analytical capabilities in the North America reinsurance market and expand our client and broker network,” said Jerome Faure, Chief Executive Officer of Global Reinsurance. “We are fulfilling our commitment to transforming Endurance into a recognized leader in the global reinsurance market.”

Donelan earned his B.S. in Athletic Administration from St. Vincent’s College of St. John’s University in 1990, and his M.B.A. from The College of Insurance (now the School of Risk Management of The Peter J. Tobin College of Business) in 1999.

Catherine Downey Receives Award for Teaching Excellence

Catherine Downey ’07Ed, ’08GEd was honored with the Big Apple Award, a city-wide teacher recognition program open to all full-time teachers in public schools across New York City. More than 2,000 teachers were nominated, and after a rigorous screening process that included recommendations from principals, letters of support from colleagues and a personal interview, she was one of only 11 teachers to receive the award.

The award was presented by New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg. “Great teachers are a school’s most valuable asset, and we must recognize their skills and the impact they have on our students — even beyond the classroom,” noted Bloomberg. “The Big Apple Award recipients exemplify the best of our New York City teaching corps — the biggest, most diverse and talented group of teachers in our nation.”

After earning her B.S. and M.S. in Education from St. John’s School of Education, Downey began teaching fifth grade at P.S. 128 in Brooklyn, where she quickly developed a reputation for excellence among her supervisors, colleagues and the parents of her students. Fittingly, it was a parent who nominated her for the Big Apple Award.
Diane Pietraszewski ’05L was elected Board President of Working for Downtown in Buffalo, NY. She is an Associate at Jaeckle Fleischman & Mugel LLP in their Labor and Employment practice group in Buffalo, NY.

Stefan Borovina ’08L is an Associate at Goldberg Segalla LLP in Garden City, NY.

Marcus Cheung ’08TCB, ’11L is an Associate at Stagg, Terenzi, Confusione & Wabnick, LLP in Garden City, NY.

Andrew Yuan ’09GP is an Adjunct Professor for the Department of Biology at York College in Jamaica, NY.

Jeffrey Baldwin ’11L is an Associate at Jacoby & Meyers, LLP in New York City.

Eric Lipenholtz ’11L is an Associate at Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman, LLP for their real estate group in East Meadow, NY.

Ryan Friscia ’13MBA is Manager of International Finance at Relativity-Media in Beverly Hills, CA.

Promoted? New job? Had a baby? Got married?

STORM TRACKER wants to know.

Now you can submit your Alumnote online. Just go to http://alumni.stjohns.edu and click on “Alumnotes” in the top menu and then click on “Post an Alumnote” in the left menu on the next page.

Or you can fill out the form below and mail your submission to:
St. John’s University, c/o Alumnotes Editor, St. John's University Alumni Magazine, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens, NY, 11439, fax it to (718) 990-6873, e-mail alumnotes@stjohns.edu

We need your help
We are looking to reconnect with alumni with whom we have lost touch. If you know of anyone with whom we have lost contact or who has lost contact with us, we would like to hear from you. Please submit their contact information, including e-mails, to alumnotes@stjohns.edu and help us stay in touch with our alumni.

IN HOLY MATRIMONY
Spouse’s Name
First Middle/Maiden Last
Year/School (if also an alum)
Wedding date

IN THE FAMILY WAY Son Daughter
Child’s Name Date of birth
Spouse’s Name
Year/School (if also an alum)

I would like information on: Alumni Insider’s View Annual Giving Opportunities Chapter Gatherings Other

News submissions will be published in the order received. Submissions may be edited for space and style.

* To locate the University Identification Number, please refer to the “X number” located directly above your name and mailing address on the back of this magazine.
ALUMNOTES

> In Holy Matrimony

1980s
Mary Ellen Fontana ’80SVC, ’92GEd to Mark Ventimiglia ’81CBA, ’83MBA – June 8, 2013

1990s
Monica Foronda ’97C to Edgar Maldonado – April 20, 2013

2000s
David Smith ’02CPS to Sarah Rodriguez – March 27, 2011
Alfred Mancuso ’03C to Kathleen Heitz – October 11, 2013
Pasquale Antoniato ’05CPS to Toni-Ann Romano – September 28, 2013
Robert F. Carroll, Jr. ’05L to Meghan Cannella ’07L – September 15, 2012
Ian Leverich ’06TCB to Justyna Kret ’06C, ’07G – October 13, 2012
Michael Wolfe ’06TCB to Lisa Tripi – June 15, 2012

2010s
Rebeca Chan ’12MBA to Johnathan Martinez – May 3, 2013

> In Print

Linda McFadden ’56UC is the author of Dawn in a Timid Sky (CreateSpace, 2013). A novel based on Italian memoirs and U.S. Civil War diaries. The story chronicles their personal and professional survival through the past into today’s volatile world of publishing, TV and film.

Michael O’Reilly ’86NDC is the author of Test Requirement Driven Development: The Product Development Catalyst (Savvy Management, 2013). A book that focuses on improving the efficiency of the product development process. It allows Agile methodologies, such as SCRUM, to execute and deliver product features to the marketplace with greater effectiveness and efficiency.

John Vento ’00MBA is the author of Financial Independence (Getting to Point X): An Advisor’s Guide to Comprehensive Wealth Management (Wiley, John & Sons, Inc., 2013). A clear, concise, step-by-step approach to developing a financial life plan. This book provides readers with practical action steps to make progress in addressing their goals. It provides a road map, but also includes real examples of how to implement the strategies based upon your situation.

Joseph Ladouceur ’59C is the author of The Dealer (Publish America, 2013). Israeli extortionists threaten to destroy Hoover Dam and demolish the famed Las Vegas Strip in the bargain, unless casino operators pay millions. Only a young Blackjack dealer can thwart the pair’s intricate scheme...but has he discovered the clever conspiracy in time to foil it? The answer is waiting scant hours away...in the forbidding Mojave Desert.

Janice Milusich ’88Ed is the author of Bryn’s Quest: The Search for Clun’s Treasure (MuseItUp Publishing, 2012). A teenage fantasy adventure that shows how our past affects our future, and how the values of love, respect and responsibility affect our lives and the earth we live on.

Melissa Kuch ’05CPS is the author of The Hypothesis of Giants – Book One: The Assumption (CreateSpace, 2013). Set in the town of Candlewick, a place where no one questioned their mandatory curfew for the past 15 years until one night, a mysterious conch shell sounds, only heard by two young teenagers who are destined to fulfill a preordained prophecy.
ALUMNOTES > In Memoriam

1930s
Sarah Block ’31CBA
Elizabeth Fass ’32L
Jack Froman ’32L
Alexander Jacobson ’32L
Katherine Sullivan ’33G
Abraham Sprinz ’35L
Francis Looney ’37C, ’40L
Ann Lebowitz ’38CBA
Moses Goldberg ’39L
Herbert Goldstein ’39CBA

1940s
Dennis Carey ’40UC, ’49L
Mary Smith ’40Ed
Frank D’Antonio ’41C
Mary Minoque ’41NDC, ’67G
Edmund Pellegrino ’41C
Harold Warren ’41L
Eugene Bambrick ’42C, ’48L
Robert Eisen ’42CBA
Samuel Lemkin ’42L
Raymond Manning ’44CBA
Eugene Frasca ’45C, ’46C
Joseph Plunkett ’45CBA
Robert Chilton ’46CBA
Joseph Halpern ’46L
Joseph Apuzzo ’49CBA
David Weprinsky ’48CBA
Alfred Skidmore ’48L
Mary Sheppard ’48NDC
John Burke ’49CBA
Robert Puyor-Storer ’49NED, ’57G NED
Oberdorfer Tedeschi ’49L
Donald Wafer ’49CBA

1950s
Francis Comer ’50UC
Matthew Clarke ’50C
Thomas Gordon ’50L
Carola Gradilone ’50NED
Mary Horan ’50CBA
Robert Larose ’50CBA
Francis Rala ’50C
Rose Taranto ’50Ed
Michael Demetriou ’51L
Eileen Gildersleeve ’51Ed
Frank Gordon ’53CBA
Frank Gorgonzola ’53P
Maureen Gregorovic ’51CBA
Thomas Gros ’51CBA
Thomas Kehe ’51L
James Sharp ’51C, ’53L
Rudolph Basile ’52L
Thomas Cannon ’52L
Hon. S. Gerald Duckor ’52L
Louis Ferrara ’52C, ’56G
William Fitzgibbons ’52L
Harold Flower ’52C
Michael Fogarty ’52L
Robert Moinnester ’52L
William Pesce ’52L
Joseph Pinnola ’52CBA
Thomas Quinn ’52C, ’59L
Frank Sluka ’52CBA
Gloria Quigley ’52NED, ’61GED, ’72PHD
Warren Zogroff ’52CBA
William Cunningham ’53CBA
Angelo D’Angelo ’53P, ’73GP
Margaret Fleming ’53UC
John Hebrank ’53CBA
Eugene McGuiness ’53L
Thomas Meagher ’53CBA
Maureen Pistilli ’53NDC
Francis Pomilla ’53P
Barbara Rogers ’53NED
William Ryan ’53C
Joseph Seguljic ’53CBA
Mary Sullivan ’53NED, ’84PD
Robert Wall ’53CBA, ’65MBA
Joan Doody ’54UC
Joseph Frates ’54UC
Jane James ’54CBA
Vincent Laffrana ’54C
Patricia Santoro ’54UC
Rudolph Scrimiento ’54C
John Sisko ’54UC
Aldo Alleva ’55L
Herbert Cranam ’55UC
Doris Harvier ’55G
Ronald Kilmartin ’55L
Richard Cibelli ’55P
Maureen Hanley ’55UC
Vincent LaBruna ’55P
Joan Doody ’56Ed, ’75GED
James Kane ’56L
Gilbert Olds ’56C
Eileen Crowley ’56CBA, ’66L
Vincent Grunhilde ’56L
Herbert Crannan ’55UC
Aldo Alleva ’55L
Vincent Laffrana ’55C
Joan Doody ’56Ed, ’75GED
James Kane ’56L
John Sisko ’56CBA
Doris Harvier ’55G
Robert Mulderig ’64C
Frank Stella ’56C, ’74L
Frank Vario ’65P
Charlene VanHorn ’65C
John Meenan ’66MBA
Walter Moulough ’66L
Virginia Rico ’66Ed
Joseph Campo ’67CBA
Michael Coppelli ’67CBA
Richard Kelly ’67UC
Percy Miller ’67L
Thomas Jenik ’68CBA
Robert Mulderig ’64C
Frank Stella ’56C, ’74L
Frank Vario ’65P
Charlene VanHorn ’65C
John Meenan ’66MBA
Walter Moulough ’66L
Virginia Rico ’66Ed
Joseph Campo ’67CBA
Michael Coppelli ’67CBA
Richard Kelly ’67UC
Percy Miller ’67L
Thomas Jenik ’68CBA
Peter Proby ’68C, ’71L
Robert MacDonnell ’68L
William Rubitski ’68L
Patricia Visco ’68P
John Zitrick ’68CBA
Lois Bayer ’69Ed
Philip Plater ’71L

1960s
Peter Tabarin ’60CBA
Theresa Burke ’81PD
Eleanor Creedon ’81VSC
John Linguiti ’81MBA
Edward McHugh ’81L
Kathleen Toher ’81L
Edward Ford ’82L
John Mangialardi ’83L
Kevin McDermott ’83L
Robert Thompson ’84CBA
Joseph Gagliano ’85L
Carol McGreevy ’85MBA
Amelia Scarles ’85P
Thomas Wagner ’86CBA

1970s
James Conlon ’90C
Irving Dyal ’90GED
Andrea Gosda ’94MBA

2000s
Sean Smith ’00L
Claudette Kokotis ’05CPSC
James O’Keefe ’07CB

IN MEMORIAM

Submissions to In Memoriam must be received by letter, e-mail, as a printed obit, or using this form from a family member, guardian or legal executor to:
Lisa Capone, Division of Institutional Advancement, St. John’s University, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Queens, NY, 11439. Via e-mail to capone@stjohns.edu or via fax at (718) 990-8659.

Name of Deceased

School/Class Year ___________________________ Date of Death (required) ___________________________

Contact Name ___________________________

Phone Number ___________________________ Relationship to Deceased (required) ___________________________

Does the family of the deceased wish to continue receiving mail from St. John’s University? □ Yes □ No

St. John’s University has made every effort to verify the accuracy of the data contained herein. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that you bring them to our attention for subsequent correction.
A Conversation with Joseph Borrino ’90CBA, ’97MBA

A proud graduate of St. John’s Staten Island campus, Joseph Borrino ’90CBA, ’97MBA has enjoyed a unique career. He currently serves as Chief Financial Officer of Jay Z’s Roc Nation, LLC, one of the most successful full-service entertainment companies in the world.

But Borrino’s journey from college to career didn’t happen overnight. We recently caught up with him to discuss Roc Nation, how his SJu education gave him a leg up in the professional world and why he remains connected to the University he loves.

Not everyone can say that they interact with Jay Z on an everyday basis. How did you get started working in the entertainment industry?

Well, I was actually working at Grant Thornton for a while and, after a few years, started looking for a different opportunity. I answered an ad in the New York Times for an entertainment company — it was called Polygram, at the time — and two of the individuals who interviewed me were fellow St. John’s alumni. I’m sure that helped me get the job, and I was fortunate enough to continue to progress through the company as it expanded.

When I was later working at Island Records, we acquired Def Jam, which featured Jay Z as one of its artists. I knew him vaguely, but when he eventually became the President of Def Jam, he and I started working very closely together. Years later, he called me up and asked if I’d like to come over and work for Roc Nation with him. I couldn’t pass up that opportunity, knowing what a good guy he is to work for and what a visionary he is.

One of Roc Nation’s artists is SJu alumnus Jermaine Cole ’07CPS (J. Cole). Have you two ever bonded over your St. John’s experiences?

As a matter of fact, when I first met J. Cole, we immediately started talking about how we’re both St. John’s guys, and we had a fun conversation about the Men’s Basketball team. This past year, he had another number-one album, so we’re really excited to watch his career continue to grow.

How did your St. John’s education help you get where you are today in the professional world?

One of my professors, Ray Zollo ’82MBA, had a big impact on me. He was actively working in the business world on the days he wasn’t teaching, so he was able to share his real-life experiences with us in the classroom, adding on to what we learned in the textbooks. There are so many professors like that, and I think that’s the real beauty of a St. John’s education.

You were recently honored at the 34th Annual Staten Island Golf Outing, due to your tremendous career and impact on the community. Why do you think the Staten Island campus is such a special place?

I was incredibly honored to have been chosen for that, and it was a humbling experience. The Staten Island campus is pretty small — only about 3,000 students when I went there — but that’s what makes it great. I was able to develop some very strong relationships, plus I met my wife of 18 years there. You always feel a warmth and friendliness when you step foot on campus, so it’s really an amazing place.

Why do you choose to support St. John’s and remain involved in the University community?

First and foremost, St. John’s gave me the building blocks and the base for my career. I try to come back to campus as often as I can and serve as a guest speaker for different classes, because it’s important for alumni to give back to current students. College is like the gift that keeps on giving — we all received so much from St. John’s, but the only way we can ensure the University remains strong is if we put back in. It’s simply a great place filled with friendly people, so I enjoy staying connected.
Notre Dame College Christmas Tea
Sunday, January 5, 2014
Relive Notre Dame College’s most cherished Christmas tradition while sharing the holiday spirit with other NDC alumnae.

Blessing of the Couples
Saturday, February 15, 2014
Renew your commitment to each other and celebrate your love for St. John’s at this special Mass in St. Thomas More Church.

St. Patrick’s Day Brunch and Parade
Monday, March 17, 2014
Enjoy brunch before stepping off to show your St. John’s pride by marching in New York’s St. Patrick’s Day parade with your fellow alumni.

2014 Notre Dame College Homecoming
Saturday, April 5, 2014
Notre Dame College alumnae are invited to reminisce about their student days on the campus they called home for their annual Homecoming event.

James and Eileen Christmas Business Plan Competition and Expo
Saturday, April 5, 2014
Experience the creative ingenuity of our students as these future entrepreneurs present their ideas for the next innovative product or service while competing for cash prizes.

Sixth Annual Alumni Great Lawn Party
Saturday, April 26, 2014
Bring your children and grandchildren back to campus for a fun day of rides, games, music and food at what has become one of St. John’s most popular family events.

The Jubilarian Society Dinner
Saturday, May 31, 2014
Members of the Class of 1964 who are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of their graduation and those alumni who have already achieved that important milestone are invited to reconnect with friends and former classmates at this special event.

For the most up-to-date information regarding any of these events, please visit www.stjohns.edu/alumnicalendar
Get set for the game and join your St. John’s family for Pre-Game Receptions!

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN games:
- Saturday, January 11 vs. Villanova
- Saturday, February 1 vs. Marquette
- Sunday, February 9 vs. Creighton
- Sunday, February 16 vs. Georgetown
- Tuesday, February 18 vs. Butler
- Tuesday, February 25 vs. Xavier
- Sunday, March 2 vs. DePaul

CARNESECCA ARENA games:
- Thursday, January 16 vs. Providence
- Thursday, January 23 vs. Seton Hall

AWAY Games:
- Saturday, January 4 at Georgetown
- Saturday, January 25 at Butler
- Thursday, February 13 at Seton Hall
- Saturday, February 22 at Villanova

Special thanks to our sponsor, St. John’s NYC, where alumni can take advantage of a 10% discount available year-round! (Discounts may not be applicable during pre and post MSG events — including New York Knicks, New York Rangers, BIG EAST programs and concerts.)

Save up to $250 with our five-game packages!
Amazing discounts on single game receptions and game tickets. You could even win luxury box seats at MSG!

For complete details call (877) SJU-ALUM or visit
WWW.STJOHNS.EDU/BBALLRECEPTIONS