

CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL TODAY

FALL/WINTER 2018



• LIVING
THE MISSION



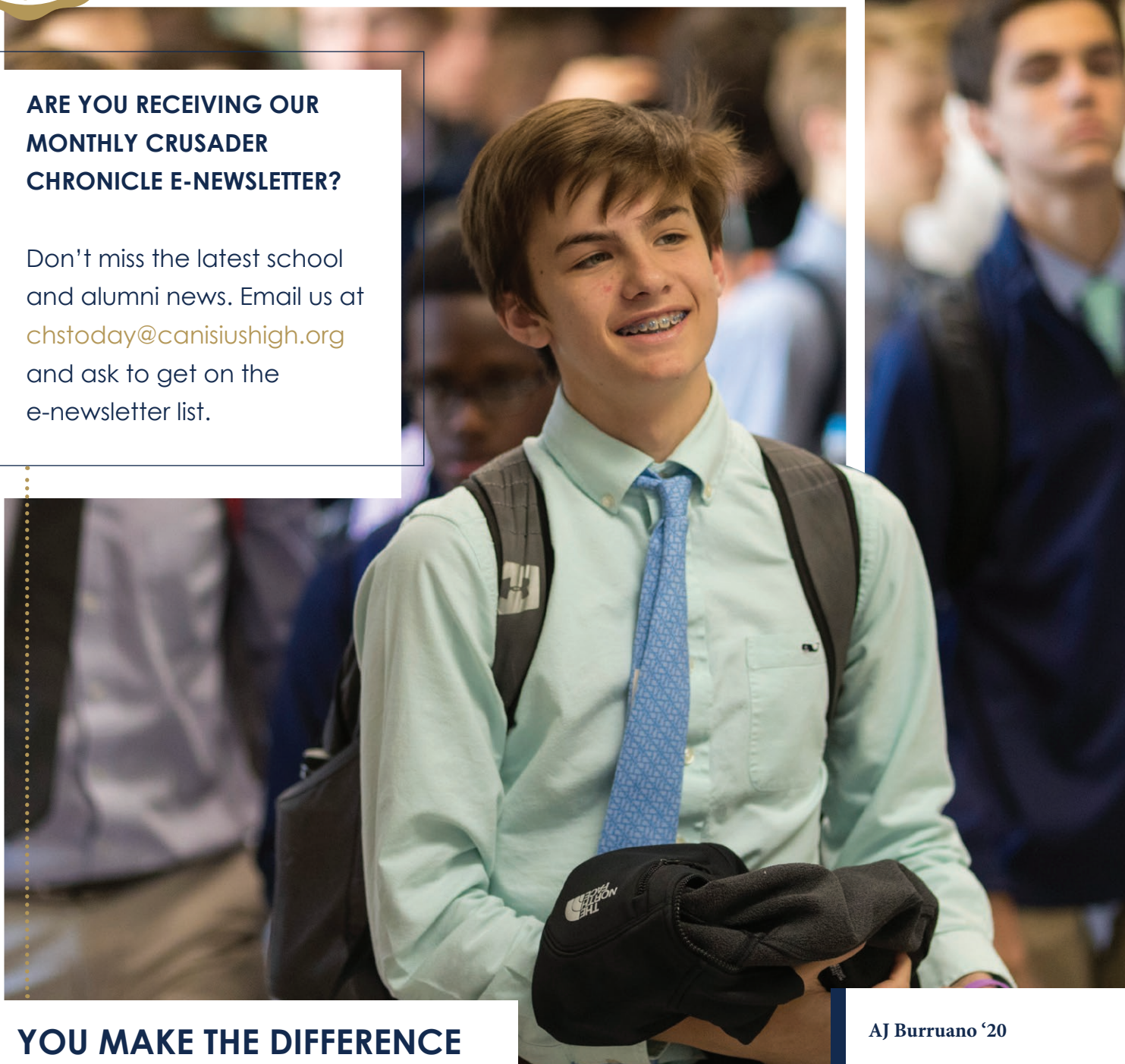


CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL

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AJ Burruano '20

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WHAT'S INSIDE

ON THE COVER

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With Fr. Ciancimino (left to right) Aiden Keane '21, Malik Jemison '21, Sam Getty '21 and Derek Baker '21.

FROM THE

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

When **Sam Sullivan '20** reflects on his experience at Canisius he finds that he now pushes himself to step up and be a better person. **Chris Swagler '19** has been moved beyond his comfort zone and grown in self-understanding and peace. **Greg Simonian '19** has discovered that he wants service to be an integral part of his life. Each student has found a deeper sense of who he is and who he desires to be.

Canisius High School is undergoing a Spirit-led, community-driven, process of reflection to consider how we might delve even more deeply into the apostolic, counter-cultural, worldview of the Society of Jesus today. Jesuit schools examine their mission formally every five years through a reflective experience called "sponsorship review." It's a way of holding ourselves accountable to the high ideals of the Society of Jesus by assessing how well we are fulfilling our mission.

"We believe we can change the world –
one mind, one soul, one student at a time –
for God's greater glory."

Our mission is to serve young men of diverse backgrounds and to challenge them to strive for excellence as critical thinkers and effective communicators who are open to growth, intellectually competent, religious, loving, and committed to justice. This mission should animate everything we do at Canisius.

In this issue of Canisius High School Today, we've asked members of the Canisius community – students like Sam,

Chris and Greg – as well as a teacher and alumni to reflect on this theme of our mission.

For **Tim Kane '80**, the mission resonates in the care and support the Canisius community offered an emotionally fragile freshman following the death of his father. That freshman was Tim's late father, **Dr. Leo Kane '50**. **Keith Wiley '74**, left a career in banking for an opportunity to help middle school students succeed in math.

Living the mission isn't exclusive to big life moments or decisions, it happens in the day to day as well. Kathleen Riley, the Religion department chair at Canisius, describes moments she's witnessed – a sports team forgoing practice for a day of service at St. Luke's Mission of Mercy; a teacher who stays long after the final bell to sit with students pondering college and life choices. These seemingly small actions are part of the fabric of our Jesuit institution.

Intentional reflection allows us to sift through our memories and experiences in order to see the ways God has been present and at work in our lives. At Canisius, we seek to form the hearts and minds of the young men entrusted to us. It's a privileged role and an awesome responsibility. Ultimately, we believe we can change the world – one mind, one soul, one student at a time – for God's greater glory. That's our mission.

Thank you for your continued support and care for Canisius High School.

Blessings and gratitude,

David Ciancimino, S.J.
Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J.



FROM THE

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE •

"He is very generous in sharing his time and materials with his colleagues in the department. He is very quietly cooperative and always doing **more** than his share of the load."

These are words that I wrote in March 2001 in support of my colleague, Tim Fitzgerald in his application for tenure. We were both religion teachers at Canisius at the time. He eventually preceded me as principal, serving in the role from 2010 to 2014. Tim passed away this autumn after a lengthy illness, and he is on my mind now as I ponder the theme of this issue of Canisius High School Today – Living the Mission.

Cura personalis – care for the whole person – is a central characteristic of Jesuit education. As educators we strive to be attentive to each individual student's particular needs and circumstances. Tim Fitzgerald was an example of *cura personalis* in action. Well-liked and respected by both students and colleagues, he taught with a patient firmness, and related to others with a sensitivity to their needs. He wasn't afraid to try new teaching methods to expose his students to new ways of learning. Tim also brought his mild mannered, gentle nature to his work as an administrator, and was always willing to listen to what others had to say.

This reflection is not solely my memories of Tim. With the news of his passing, many from the Canisius community shared their condolences on our Facebook page. "He was so good to my boys", "What a wonderful man for others," "His kindness...will always be remembered", "Gentle, kind and so devoted to his students and family" – a small sampling of their remembrances.

Perhaps above all else, Tim had a tremendous love of his family. When he walked through the blue doors each day though, the Canisius community was his priority. He was generous with his time and talent to any student or colleague who needed him. He treated each of us as if we were family.

I am thankful for the nearly 20 years that Tim and I worked together at Canisius, and grateful to have called him a colleague and a friend. May he rest in the peace of God's presence. And, may we consider Tim's example as we each continue to live this mission.

Respectfully,

Andrea Tyrpak-Endres

Ms. Andrea Tyrpak-Endres

BUSINESS ACUMEN

A FORMER SOUTH BUFFALO BOXER TRAVELED THE WORLD AS AN INVESTMENT BANKER, AND NOW HE'S PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE BUSINESS LEADERS.

Michael Madden '67 was only 12 years old when he became an Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America. The requirements to achieve this rank typically take years to fulfill, but for Mike it was about taking advantage of opportunities and working hard to get there quickly. That Eagle Scout determination has guided him ever since.

Growing up as an only child in South Buffalo, Mike learned about Canisius High School through a neighbor, **Michael Sansone '64**. Impressed by what Sansone had to say, Mike was determined to be a Crusader, too. With his dad on disability as a retired steelworker his family was unable to afford tuition, so Mike applied for and received a scholarship to Canisius. He also helped pay tuition by working as a delivery driver after school for a specialty shop in Buffalo.

"Canisius opened a whole new world of possibilities, showing me all that I could do with my life beyond the steel plants so prominent at the time in South Buffalo," he recalls. "While I have the utmost respect for steelworkers, I didn't want to work in a mill, so I took my studies very seriously to get good grades and go on to college."

Entering the ring.

At Canisius, Mike excelled in academics and graduated among the top 15 in his class. He was a science honors student and began thinking about becoming a doctor. At the same time, Mike took to boxing and sparred in the Golden Gloves program in Buffalo. On top of school and working, he would go to the gym several nights a week and participate in boxing matches. Mike continued boxing into college and was coached at one point by Carmen Basilio, a former world champion, famous for beating Sugar Ray Robinson in 1957.

While compiling a pretty good boxing record, Mike earned a scholarship to study pre-med at Le Moyne College – the Jesuit college in Syracuse. There, academics became his focus. He earned good grades in physics, chemistry, and biology, but Mike soon took an interest in the business world. He switched his major to business and economics.

Returning home for a labor-intensive summer job at Bethlehem Steel convinced Mike even more to make the most of his college potential. "I knew a business degree would give me options – I could be a lawyer, an accountant, or take lots of other career paths," Mike says. "My roommate's brother, a Wall Street lawyer, suggested I become an investment banker and I had to ask him what investment banking was. Turns out, his suggestion was another opportunity for me."

The road to Wall Street.

Mike returned to Buffalo after graduating from Le Moyne, planning to marry his girlfriend and earn an MBA from the University at Buffalo. Then his girlfriend left him.

"It was actually a stroke of serendipity, because I had been accepted into the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and had two weeks before that acceptance expired," Mike laughs. "With my parents in Florida, and no girl, I packed my '65 Chevy and headed down to Wharton."

"It is important to pave the way
for the next generation."

After earning his MBA at Wharton, Mike went to work for Kidder Peabody, a major Wall Street securities firm. He was just 24 years old. His work took him into the oil and gas industry with clients among the leading companies in Texas. At a time when there was no such designation in the investment world, Mike saw an opportunity to be a specialist in the energy sector. Energy continues to be his specialty today.

As the oil and gas business grew, Mike started and headed up the Energy and Natural Resources Group at Kidder Peabody, one of the first such specialty groups on Wall Street. Five years later, Kidder Peabody appointed Mike to oversee all of its investment banking business globally. He left that position after a few years to co-head global investment banking at Lehman Brothers in New York City, but returned to Kidder Peabody which eventually merged into Paine Webber.



Le Moyne College named the Madden School of Business for **Mike Madden '67**. It is the first named school in the College's history.

Alternative investments.

Opportunity knocked again when an old friend and colleague of Mike's asked him to join a private equity firm called the Beacon Group in New York. After traveling around the world for more than 23 years in investment banking, Mike saw it as the chance to try something new. Following his success at the Beacon Group, Mike worked in a similar private equity role with Questor Management Group in New York.

In 2005, Mike founded his own private investment firm, Black Eagle Partners. The name came from his Boy Scout days when he was the leader of a group called the Black Eagle Patrol. A symbol of the young scout's determination had come full circle. Black Eagle has offices in Detroit, Michigan and Sarasota, Florida where Mike lives.

Opportunity for others.

Throughout his career, Mike has remained a big supporter of the Boys Scouts. He also is very involved with Le Moyne College. After he made the second largest donation in the school's history, Le Moyne launched the Madden School of Business in his name. And, he supports Canisius High School where he currently serves on the Board of Trustees.

No matter which organization Mike is supporting, he explains that his goal is to help provide opportunities – similar to what he experienced in his life – for other people.

"When you receive a solid foundation from a school or a group like the Boy Scouts, and you have very meaningful experiences that you carry through life, you should never forget that," Mike concludes. "It is important to pave the way for the next generation, just as previous generations paved the way for us."



LOOKING BACK PAYING IT FORWARD

VISHAL BAKSHI'S OWN JOURNEY INFORMS
HIS ACTIONS TODAY.

For **Vishal Bakshi '90**, the path to a successful career in the financial industry has had a few bumps.

Vishal's family immigrated to the United States from India when he was three years old, as his parents sought the best care for his sister who has cerebral palsy. After first settling in Albany, the family was drawn to Buffalo for its schools and care facilities for people with disabilities. They arrived in the city during the Blizzard of '77.

"My parents came here to give their children a better life and they experienced some difficult times," Vishal recalls. "When it came to my education, the philosophy was simple – they expected me to do the best possible. If my grade was 99, they would ask why it was not 100."

Vishal was motivated to meet his parents' expectations and it would pay off. He was valedictorian at his eighth grade graduation from Public School 81 in Buffalo and earned a scholarship to Canisius High School. He adapted quickly to the academic rigor at Canisius.

"Because of my family's push to do my best in school, I truly enjoyed the challenges at Canisius," Vishal recalls. "Equally important, I developed life-long friendships in the Canisius community with students who shared that passion for education."

"The goal is to help as many people
as possible because there were
many people who helped me
along the way."

Always strong in math and science, and with a love of cars from an early age, Vishal studied engineering at General Motors Institute, now known as Kettering University in Michigan. As part of the five-year program, he worked as a supervisor at GM Powertrain in Tonawanda. His interest in engineering transformed into a love for business and he applied to Harvard Business School during his senior year. He was one of the youngest students ever accepted into the school's graduate program.

After earning his graduate degree, Vishal ran business development for an online music retail business in the booming internet industry of the early 2000s. He then became a financial advisor with the New York City offices of Credit Suisse, an international financial services company. From there, he was recruited to Merrill Lynch where he serves as a managing director and private wealth advisor.

Throughout his career, Vishal has been involved with a number of causes that are close to his heart. His sister, who resides in Western New York with Aspire, Inc., inspires him to support that organization and others that care for people with special needs. Cancer research is another cause Vishal supports as his mother died from ovarian and breast cancer. Also, reflecting on his own opportunities to attend top schools, Vishal gives to many educational causes.

"I think the goal is to help as many people as possible because there were many people who helped me along the way," Vishal concludes. "Without Canisius High School, I would not have gotten into the GM Institute which led to Harvard Business School which led to the career I enjoy today."

Vishal's wife, Kelly, wrote about his life's journey in a chapter that was included in "Chicken Soup for the Soul: My Kind (of) America", published in 2017. He and Kelly have two children.

LIFELONG LEARNING

MARK KRIS, MD IS A LEADER IN A FIELD THAT DIDN'T EXIST WHEN HE WAS AT CANISIUS.

"When I was at Canisius, there was no such medical specialty as oncology; there were not even computers," recalls **Mark Kris, MD '69**.

Yet today Mark specializes in caring for people as an oncologist and chair in Thoracic Oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) Cancer Center in New York City, and leads MSK's project to train IBM's Watson supercomputer to help select the best treatments for individual patients. He treats patients with cancers that arise in the lungs, and leads a research team at MSK that is working to find new treatments for lung cancer.

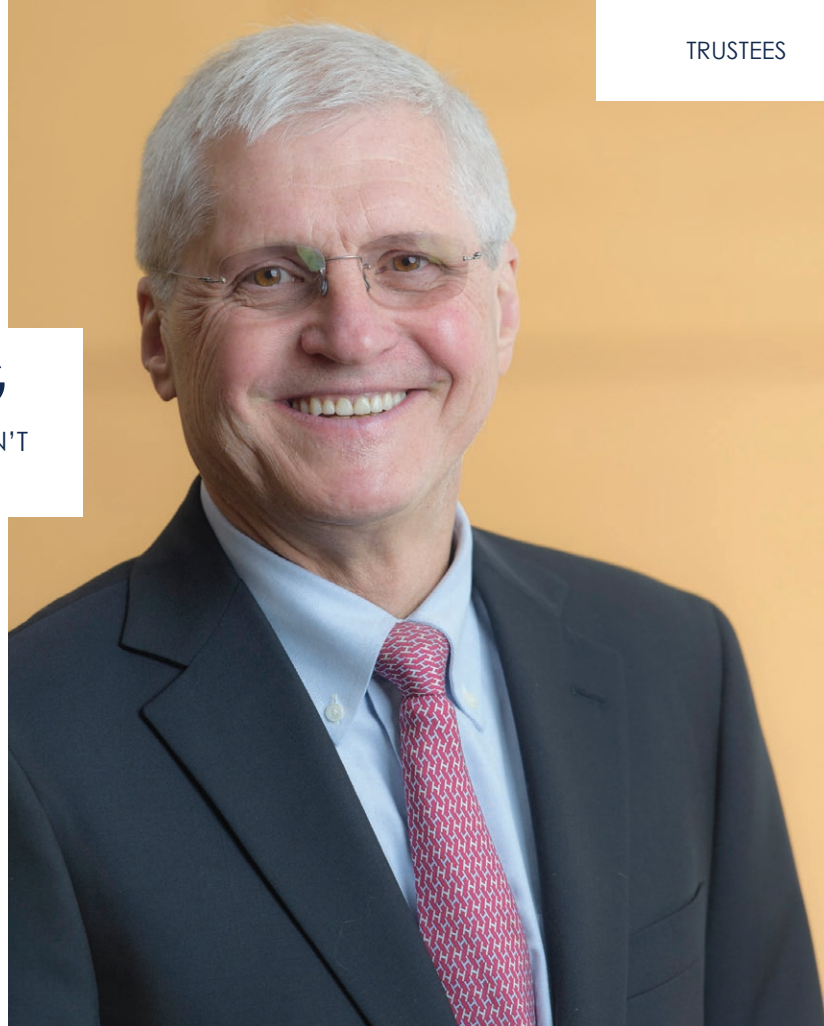
He stresses that learning how to learn is key. "Having a broad education helped me adapt my skills to become a specialist in lung cancer treatment," says Mark.

The research done by Mark's team was instrumental in discovering a genetic change in cancer cells that partly helped to set the paradigm for the best ways to treat lung cancer and increase the chance of cure. For the 240,000 Americans diagnosed with lung cancer each year, Mark's work means hope.

Mark also cares for people outside the hospital setting through a number of volunteer efforts. He has participated in medical missions to Haiti sponsored by a faith community. Through that same organization – United Methodists – he has volunteered for disaster relief following hurricanes and helped rebuild communities in the southern United States. In Costa Rica, he helped build a basketball court to give young people a safe place to play. Closer to his home in New York, he has assisted in relief efforts following flooding in the Catskills and Hurricane Sandy which devastated parts of the East Coast.

Whether comforting and guiding a cancer patient, or rolling up his sleeves in relief work, Mark says his philosophy of caring started at Canisius.

"Canisius was extraordinary at teaching so many things both in academics and in grounding the students to do what is right," Mark explains. "We learned not to just accept things the way they are, but to take constructive action to make important changes in the world."



Inspired by his father, **Edward Kris '41**, to choose Canisius, Mark graduated among the top students in his class. He says Fr. Paul Naumann, S.J., his English teacher, taught him the value of writing, and Mark majored in English at Fordham University. He earned his medical degree from Cornell University Medical College.

"We learned not to just accept things the way they are, but to take constructive action to make important changes in the world."

Mark has been at Memorial Sloan Kettering since 1980 and lives with his wife, an attorney, in the New York City area. They have two adult children – a daughter who is a teacher, and a son who works in foreign service. Mark also serves on Canisius High School's board of trustees.

"Serving on the board gives me the chance to be part of an outstanding organization in an effort to give students the same opportunity for a Jesuit education as I had," Mark concludes. "Canisius is a school where everything fits to set a philosophy that can shape the rest of a young man's life."



MULTIPLYING SUCCESS

KEITH WILEY GIVES HIS STUDENTS EVERY CHANCE TO BE PROFICIENT IN MATH.

Keith Wiley '74 is an award-winning math teacher at Houghton Academy in Buffalo. He believes homework equals success in education, and his own success in teaching proves it.

"Homework is the key experience in education – it is the only area where the student and the content meet without a teacher present," Keith explains. "At Canisius High School, we were accustomed to at least two hours of homework a night."

Keith's approach to homework for his students is something he calls flipping the classroom – making sure students have access to notes, lessons and other resources outside of class. Technology is a big part of it. The school has laptops and Smart Boards, and Keith puts lessons on YouTube. (A gospel singer, he incorporates music into the videos.) And, calculators are welcome. Keith says he can teach anyone to understand the conceptual side of mathematics, and calculators and technology become tools. He uses the same concept with his students at Medaille College where he is an adjunct professor of mathematics.

Anyone needing proof that the approach works only need look at Keith's track record. A few years ago, a team of his eighth-graders beat reigning champion City Honors School, in the Middle School Math League Competition. Houghton has been a top contender every year since.

Keith was born in North Carolina, but when his mother died at a young age, his grandparents raised him in Buffalo. Exceptional in math at St. Ann's grammar

school, he earned a scholarship to Canisius where he continued to excel, even in his algebra class taught by **Fr. John G. Sturm, S.J.** '35 he muses.

Keith earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics, as well as an MBA, from Canisius College. He worked in a management training program for a Buffalo bank and after receiving his graduate degree, became a commercial loan officer.

"God gives each of us certain talents and we are expected to share them."

Later, married with two daughters, Keith became a single dad when he and his first wife separated. Focused on raising his daughters, he worked out of a home office after starting a business. Keith also tutored students in math, something he had done ever since teaching in the summer Higher Achievement Program at Canisius.

While substitute teaching at a Buffalo public high school he caught the attention of the administration with the success of his students, and he started full-time at Houghton Academy in 2000.

Keith's efforts continue to draw notice. The Buffalo News honored him as one of its Citizens of the Year, and he received the Teacher of Merit Award from Business First. This past October, he was among the honorees at the 2018 Buffalo Black Achievers 46th Annual Awards Gala. He currently serves on two boards – the New York State Department of Education's Professional Standards and Practices Board; and the Teachers Table, a think tank operated by the New York State Board of Regents.

Keith, now married to a special education teacher, says he believes that helping others is all part of the equation in life. "God gives each of us certain talents and we are expected to share them," Keith concludes. "Mine happen to be in math and I am thankful that I can make a difference in the lives of young people."



SUMMER IN RWANDA

AN OPPORTUNITY TO TEACH, AND LEARN, TOOK PETER ZITTEL THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY FROM HIS FAMILY'S FARM.

Peter Zittel '18 with schoolchildren in Rwanda.

"When will you be back?"

Peter Zittel '18 recalls his father asking that question after Peter told him his plan to go to Rwanda last summer. "I assured him I'd be back for the start of corn season," Peter says. His family runs a 300 acre vegetable farm in the Eden Valley where Peter has worked every summer. When he arrived in Kigali, the densely populated capital of Rwanda, Peter noticed the farming methods. "I saw crops planted anywhere there was space – in front yards of homes and in three feet of land between houses."

Farming wasn't the purpose of Peter's trip though. His two-and-a-half weeks would be spent working in an orphanage and teaching English to schoolchildren. He had enjoyed getting to know children from refugee families while he was a Canisius student volunteer at the Journey's End Refugee Services summer camp. He's also learned to appreciate different cultures and perspectives while working alongside immigrants from Mexico, South America and the Middle East on his family's farm. "I've realized that there are more sides to a story; not just yours," says Peter.

"Before I went to Rwanda, I would describe it as 'I'm going there to help and to teach,' but I honestly think the kids taught me more than I taught them," says Peter as he reflects on the experience. He tells stories about the young people he got to know, including a teenage boy who walked several miles to school each day but always arrived with a smile, eager to learn. "He values being in a

learning environment," Peter explains, "In the U.S. we tend to value material things – cars, houses – but those things shouldn't be the most important."

This fall, Peter began his freshman year at the State University of New York at Geneseo where he plans to study business, and then go to law school with a goal of joining the FBI. Although he and his brother are seventh generation vegetable farmers, Peter doesn't expect he'll be running the farm eventually. "I wouldn't change my childhood on the farm for anything," says Peter, "but ever since I was little I've wanted to be an FBI agent."

"I've realized that there are more sides to a story; not just yours."

Peter believes Canisius helped him develop into someone who can achieve his goals. "I came to Canisius with a lot of raw characteristics – a work ethic developed on the farm, my family instilled morals – and Canisius fine-tuned those elements. I've gone from my grandpa and dad telling me to work hard to pushing myself to work hard in school. I've developed from just going to church to actually wanting to go to church, and choosing to volunteer and help others. With all these areas of my life Canisius helped me put together the pieces of the puzzle. I'm sure I'll continue to grow in college, but Canisius definitely helped me establish a good base."

ETERNAL CRUSADER

ANTHONY AMIGONE, SR. KEEPS HIS CLASSMATES TOGETHER OVER 72 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP.

Anthony Amigone, Sr. '50 was part of the first class at Canisius High School that attended all four years on the Delaware Avenue campus when the school moved from Washington Street in Buffalo. But, he did not graduate with that class.

"There was a difference of opinion on what I wanted to learn and I ended up finishing at Kensington High School," Anthony recalls. "I regretted not graduating from Canisius my entire life, but the time I spent at Canisius made a big difference in who I became."

For all intents and purposes, Anthony is a Canisius alumnus. He was named an honorary member of the class of 1950 by former school president **Fr. James Higgins, S.J. '72** who recognized the extraordinary effort Anthony made in hosting reunions for the class.

"I've hosted the events at my summer home in Canada," Anthony laughs. "Ours is a very special group of guys and when Fr. Higgins presented me with the honorary degree, I had tears in my eyes."

"The time I spent at Canisius made a big difference in who I became."

After high school, Anthony attended the University of Buffalo to study business and graduated from the Simmons Institute in Syracuse with a degree in mortuary science. Soon after his mortuary residency, he was drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean War. As a licensed funeral director, Anthony was sent to work with the Graves Registration Unit which was in charge of returning deceased soldiers back to American soil. Stationed in Japan, Anthony also taught English to managers at the Mitsubishi Chemical Company, and while with the company, he was received by the Emperor of Japan.

Returning to Buffalo to help run the family's funeral business, Anthony says he relied on something he learned at Canisius – setting goals. "I wrote down a goal that I wanted to work on 100 funerals a year before I reached the age of 65," Anthony explains. "We hit that number by 1957."

Anthony continued to grow the family business and serves as chairman of the board today, overseeing 15 locations in Western New York. Amigone Funeral Home, Inc. is recognized nationally as a top funeral service provider.



Joe Scully '50 says Anthony is the glue that has kept their Canisius classmates together for decades. "He never lost contact with his friends," Joe explains, "For years he hosted the reunions in Canada, but more recently for the convenience of our classmates, he moved the reunions to a restaurant in Amherst. The class of 1950 would not be as close as we are if not for Anthony Amigone, Sr." Anthony has also expanded the reunions to include members of the classes of '49, '51, '64 and '65.

Anthony notes that the Canisius class of 1950 is one of the strongest in terms of support for the school with a number of notable lawyers, doctors, educators and business leaders in the class. In addition to hosting reunions, Amigone stays connected to Canisius through three grandsons who currently attend the school.

Anthony recalls what Fr. Higgins said at the 50th class reunion, "He noted my accomplishments and joked about what I could have done if I had stayed all four years. All kidding aside, I am grateful for the time I spent at Canisius."

DEBT OF GRATITUDE:

Why I Support Canisius •

BY TIM KANE '80

Leo A. Kane '50, Patrick J. Kane '78, Timothy L. Kane '80, Brian F. Kane '81, Kevin B. Kane '83, Leo A. Kane III '14 and Brennan Hurley '16 – this is the line of Canisius High School alumni from my family, so far.

Our family's strong connection to the Canisius community began with my father, **Leo A. Kane, MD '50**. The family's Canisius legacy nearly ended before it started though. Days before the start of his freshman year, my dad's father died. My dad was an only child and he was struggling. He was not confident he could handle the rigors of the Canisius curriculum. However, the close friendships he quickly formed with classmates, and the care and oversight of the Jesuit priests, helped fill that void. His closest lifelong friend was **Dick Grimm '50**.

My dad graduated from Canisius with honors, and eventually became chief of the anesthesiology department at Children's Hospital in Buffalo. He lived the Jesuit motto "Men for Others." Several times during his career he could have left Children's Hospital for bigger paychecks and more prominent titles, but he felt called to help sick children in Western New York.

"My closest friends today are those I met at Canisius."

I have fond memories of my dad taking me and my three brothers to the Canisius/St. Joe's football games at Rotary Field. When it came time for me to select a high school, I briefly considered Bishop Neumann. It was close to home and it had two things Canisius did not – a soccer team and girls. I will never forget the talk I had with my dad. "Tim, you can go wherever you want," he told me, "but I truly believe that if you do not go to Canisius you will regret it for the rest of your life." He also promised he would do everything he could to get a soccer team at the school. So, I enrolled at Canisius and I, too, had a great group of classmates. In fact, my closest friends today are those I met at Canisius. It took a little time but by my junior year Canisius had a soccer team, thanks to my father. One of the fondest moments of my life was winning the Monsignor Martin championship my senior year with my two brothers – **Brian '81** and **Kevin '83** – as teammates. Canisius' soccer MVP award is now named for my dad.

In 2013, tragedy struck our family. My brother Brian died unexpectedly. His son Leo, named after our dad, was going into his senior year at Canisius. Once again, the Canisius community rallied. With the tremendous support of Fr. Fred Betti, S.J., **Fr. Ron Sams, S.J. '46** and many others at the school, Leo graduated and is now doing well at Niagara University.

The late Fr. Sams was a great friend to our family and I will forever cherish the counsel he provided me over the many meals we shared through the years. Perhaps my loyalty, dedication and devotion to this wonderful community is nothing more than paying off a debt my family owes. It is a debt of gratitude. Thank you, Canisius, for all that you have done!



After Canisius, Tim Kane graduated from Cornell University and then St. Louis University School of Law. He practiced law for five years and then joined Merrill Lynch. Tim holds the title of Senior Vice President of Investments and is the senior partner in the Kane Fasanello Wealth Management Team. He recently served on the Canisius High School board of trustees and is a member of the school's athletic hall of fame.



Kathleen Riley engages (left to right) **Michael Graziano '20**, **Luke Read '20** and **Jack Stube '20** in a discussion.

LIVING THE MISSION

THE PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS OF "CARING FOR SOULS"

By Kathleen Riley, Religion department chair

It's 11:57 a.m. on a Tuesday. Fourth period Religious Studies is wrapping up. We've spent the last 40 minutes discussing Christological heresies of the 4th Century. I'm speaking to 16-year-olds. They're hearing their stomachs rumble. Bringing closure to the lesson I say, "This topic, the true nature of Christ, has real implications for my life as a Catholic. At the core of all this is a God who wants relationship with us. God – in Jesus – fully understands our humanness. He walked this earth, laughed with friends, got hungry, felt loss and endured pain. How incredible! As we head to the cafeteria and throughout our day, let us walk with others, laugh with them, feed their needs and comfort those who hurt."

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"It is a gift to be refreshed each day by
a community that lives Ignatius' vision."

.....

The students' rumbling stomachs is a practical element of their experience at present. We know St. Ignatius was a master of the spiritual; his Spiritual Exercises attest to this. He was a master of the practical life, too. When Ignatius framed his vision for the Society of Jesus he wrote of "caring for souls" and stressed the imperatives of adaptability and availability for the Greater Glory of God. Our Ignatian tradition is, at its core, an experiential theology.

"Caring for souls," and the practical implications thereof, are ever at-the-fore at Canisius. Indeed, when those very students

make their way to the cafeteria and see Fr. Richard Zanoni, S.J. radiating goodness and ready to answer any math problems they have, they experience just some of God's love. Colleagues join in this experiential theology at department meetings that begin by sharing examples of grace and consolation. Ignatian ideals are made real in the Emmaus retreat planning process as students share and discern the profound experiences of their lives. Students witness eager openness to God's call when they work with our three candidates who are discerning a Jesuit vocation while working in our school this year. All who walk the first-floor near the dean's office are reminded of the practical demands of justice by the signboard above: "If you remain silent in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor." When Coach **Joe Zera '01** has the JV basketball team trade a practice day for a service day at St. Luke's Mission of Mercy, they are exercising the bonds of community and compassion. Ms. Joni Schaller, whose classroom is where those who have "JUG" report, lives the reconciling love of God as she welcomes students with sincerity and kindness. Just down the hall Mr. **Tom Whalen '06** is "caring for souls" when he sits with a student pondering college and life-choices well past the final bell. As I head out at the end of the day, Mrs. Erika Stuff joins me and asks me how I'm doing. It is a genuine 'How are you?' We walk out to the parking lot sharing joyful anecdotes from class, while carrying a heap of homework to grade along with a deep gratitude for the work we get to share in. It is a gift to be refreshed each day by a community that lives Ignatius' vision.

SHARING OUR GIFTS

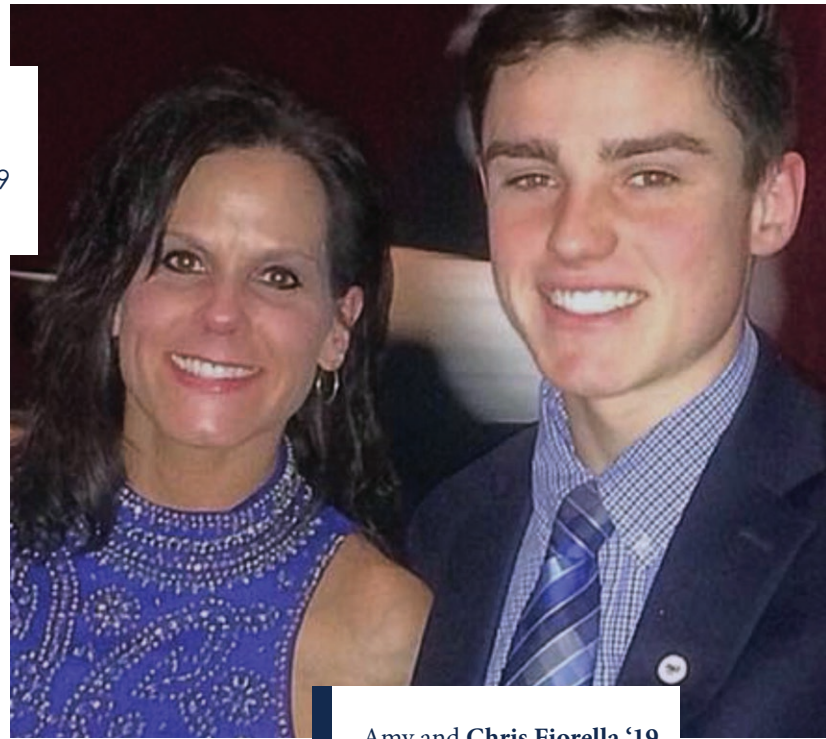
BY AMY FIORELLA, MOTHER OF CHRIS FIORELLA '19

The idea of building and opening a Little Free Food Pantry first occurred to me a few years ago when both my children had school dining cards for cafeteria food purchases. The amount of money we were putting on the cards kept increasing and I soon found out why. My children admitted they were buying food for other kids who had none. These other kids lived in what many consider to be “privileged” areas, and attended excellent schools – Canisius and Williamsville schools. Yes, even families who seem on the surface to be in good situations sometimes need help, but often they won't ask because they don't want people to know what they're going through. In some cases, families who are struggling still make “too much money” to qualify for assistance and they fall through the cracks. Tragedies and illnesses can take a huge toll on families.



I took my idea with drawing and outline for a free-standing pantry (photo left) and looked for a place to put it. My search led me to Faith United Church of Christ where I received permission to put the pantry in the parking lot. After much planning and help from volunteers, it is now open 24/7 for anyone who needs it. There are no criteria for who can use it, and it's totally confidential.

The project is not without challenges though. I work full time as a nurse and it can be difficult to check and stock the pantry daily, but it is worth it because the need is huge. The heart wrenching stories I hear when I am there have literally brought me to my knees! Donations from the community are much appreciated. Canned goods, boxed dinners, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, diapers, juice, pasta, sauce are all needed. Donations can be left directly in the pantry, or in Faith United Church, 1300 Maple Road, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to noon. There is also a Little Free Food Pantry Blessing Box Facebook page, and if you contact me I can pick up donations.



Amy and Chris Fiorella '19

My son and daughter have been a huge help through all the planning, building, and keeping it stocked. They've seen firsthand the need and how grateful people are for even simple things like a toothbrush or a fruit roll up.

“My children admitted they were buying food for other kids who had none.”

One moment in particular that stands out for me happened when the pantry was first ready to open. I went to stock it for the first time and found a pair of children's flip flops on the shelf. I noticed two little girls and a boy – Kierra, Kenna and Colden (I found out their names later) – standing outside next door. They told me proudly, beaming from ear to ear, that they had left the flip flops as a donation. Their smiles said it all! That's what it is about – helping others in the community. No matter the size of the donation, we can all help someone.



For more information, visit
www.facebook.com/pantryblessingbox.

•AUTUMN AT CANISIUS

Photos from the celebrations, activities and quiet reflective moments that fill the season...

Gifts from God

Kairos retreatants spent time at Cradle Beach reflecting and enjoying a beautiful sunset.



Walk for Canisius

National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist **Jimmy Twist '19** (left) has some fun along with **Stefano Galante '19** on Elmwood Avenue during this year's Walkathon.



Fashion Statement

Journey Boyland '19 models the latest styles at the Canisius fashion show at Salvatore's Italian Gardens.



Zombie Alert!

(Left to right) **Michael Zafuto '21**, **Jacob Capone '19**, **Michael Dobrasz '21**, along with young women from other high schools, were among the stars of "10 Ways to Avoid the Zombie Apocalypse." This was one of two one-act comedies presented by the Canisius Drama Guild this fall.

THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE
IN ATHLETICS LED TO CANISIUS
CAPTURING LEAGUE
CHAMPIONSHIPS THIS FALL
IN GOLF AND VOLLEYBALL
WHILE FINISHING AS RUNNERS-
UP IN FOOTBALL, SOCCER
AND CROSS COUNTRY.



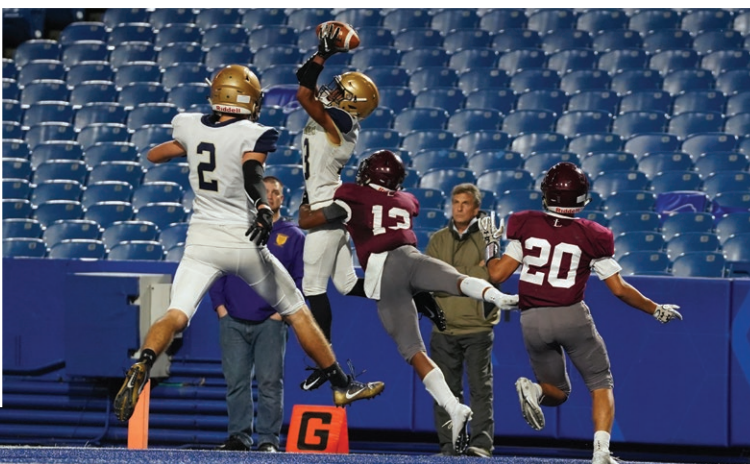
19 Straight

The varsity volleyball team defeated St. Joe's in the championship game to capture the school's 19th consecutive Monsignor Martin volleyball title. Pictured: **John Scrocco '19**.



Golf Champions

Canisius captured both the regular season and playoff Monsignor Martin Athletic Association titles. Four Crusaders – **Matt Jackson '19**, **Will Scherrer '21**, **John Rooney '19** and **Owen Rooney '22** (pictured) – qualified for the New York State tournament in the spring.



Football Frenzy

A touchdown catch by **Jason Martin '19** in the game's final seconds clinched the Crusaders come-from-behind victory over St. Joe's at New Era Field in the regular season. Canisius finished as runner-up to St. Francis in the league championship game.



Wins on the Water

The Canisius crew team earned three first place finishes and several second place finishes at the Head of the Niagara regatta. The Crusaders competed in a number of regattas around the northeast this fall.

COACHING SPOTLIGHT

BEST WISHES, BRYAN TENNEY '76...
WELCOME JUSTIN SANTONOCITO



Bryan Tenney graduated from Duke University with a degree in accounting and now works as a financial advisor. His four sons also graduated from Canisius.

Longtime Canisius baseball coach **Bryan Tenney '76** announced his retirement from the school's baseball program in August of this year. In 1991, Coach Tenney became the third varsity baseball coach in the school's history, succeeding legends Johnny Barnes and **Cornelius McGillicuddy '39**. His teams achieved success, winning 13 Georgetown Cups during his tenure. His former players say he was a great coach and is an even better person.

“It was because of him that I was able to continue my career at Canisius College and North Greenville University, but the biggest highlight of mine will always be winning the Georgetown Cup with Coach Tenney. Bryan Tenney was not just a coach, but a father, a mentor, and a true friend who instilled in me life lessons that I still carry with me to this day.”

- **Frank Polino, Jr. '09**

“In 1991, LL Cool J was popular and the guys liked to play his music in the vans on the way to practices and games. Probably not a fan at the start, but after a few days we would catch Coach singing some of the songs, and that went a long way with the guys. That's part of what makes him so special. He taught us baseball, discipline, work ethic, teamwork and countless other life lessons. At the same time, he could always find a way to relate to and communicate with us on a personal level, as all the best coaches do.”

- **Fran Riordan '93**

“Coach Tenney was a man every baseball program dreamed of having as he adhered to teaching the fundamentals of the game, and playing hard while always having respect for the game and others around it. He was like a father figure to the players. I was lucky to play for him.”

- **Dan Dallas '16**

Thank you, Coach Tenney!



Justin Santonocito is the new head varsity baseball coach at Canisius.

Canisius now welcomes the fourth varsity baseball coach in the school's history – Justin Santonocito. Coach Santonocito played professional baseball in the Arizona Diamondbacks and Cincinnati Reds organizations in the late 1990s. Since 2001, he has owned the Academy Stars nine-team travel baseball organization based in Blasdell, and has served as the head coach of the organization's showcase team. The Academy Stars has earned regional recognition throughout the college baseball community for developing talent.

“Justin is all about baseball,” says Canisius Director of Athletics James Mauro. “He had an outstanding playing career, and since then, he has dedicated himself to teaching the game, and developing skills in young players through his Academy program. Justin is keenly aware of the rich history of Canisius baseball, and is eager to be a part of it and move it forward.”

STUDENTS TO WATCH

Canisius offers opportunities for each student to grow spiritually and develop his individual talents for the service of others. On the next few pages, meet five Canisius students who share their Canisius experiences.



CELESTIN ABWE '19

"Being a 'man for others' doesn't always have to mean big actions. The little things matter too."



HOMETOWN: Tonawanda

BIRTHPLACE: Democratic Republic of Congo

ACTIVITIES: Soccer, Model UN, Current Affairs, Culinary Club. Plus, I've started a Cancer Awareness Club focused on education about the causes of cancer. Sometimes cancer is just bad luck, but in some cases there are steps that can be taken to prevent it.

ACADEMICS: Canisius offers so many things that I embraced, but I did not embrace my school work initially. I almost lost my opportunity to go to school here because I didn't do my work on time, and that's hurting me now as I apply to colleges. It's a personal flaw that I'm aware of and one I've been working to overcome.

FAVORITE TEACHER: Fr. Van Dyke (Fr. Jim Van Dyke, S.J. '77) pulled me out of a bad situation I was in. He spent a lot of time talking with me and was on me 24/7. If I didn't do something he would be after me telling me to 'get it done.' I am thankful that he came into my life.

WORK EXPERIENCE: International Child Advancement (ICA) is a non-profit based in Buffalo that works to empower economically disadvantaged children, and includes projects in Congo and Kenya. I'm leading a new

ICA effort to help disadvantaged young people in Buffalo gain management experience. We're starting with high school students but could potentially expand to college students, too. We'll match them with internships where they can learn management skills. I've also been operating a drone photography business the last couple of years along with **Joe Fisher '18** and **Kim Suy '18**. It's a business that initially failed. That was heartbreaking, but we learned from our mistakes. The drone projects we're taking on now involve real estate, events and occasional inspection jobs.

COLLEGE PLANS: Staying with Jesuit education is important to me. I'm looking at John Carroll and Le Moyne College, and I want to study business. One thing holding me back from going far away for college is that I want to be around for my little brother. He's five years old and I want to be part of his life.

BEING A "MAN FOR OTHERS": Saying "hi" in the hallway or giving someone directions – it may not seem like much, but it can mean a great deal to the person on the receiving end. Being a "man for others" doesn't always have to mean big actions. The little things matter, too.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: There are a lot of things you can do here, but make sure you get your work done. Then, you can have fun.



TUCKER CROFUT '20

"I work a lot harder because I'm pushed and encouraged by friends, teachers and other classmates to do better."

HOMETOWN: East Amherst

ALUMNUS RELATIVE: Peter Crofut '15, brother

ACTIVITIES: A few of my classmates were involved with doing the lighting in the aud for Masses, plays and events. They invited me to join them and it's been fun. Also, I've been skiing my whole life and I'm excited for ski season with the Ski Club. I participate as well with Crusaders for America's Heroes, a club that raises awareness and support for veterans of all wars.

FAVORITE CLASSES: Learning about history and some of the wars our country has been involved in – World War I, World War II, the Revolutionary and Civil Wars – is interesting to me. History provides context for today. Last year I took AP European History with Mr. Beecher (Dennis Beecher '88). It was my first AP course ever and it was a good challenge for me. I found myself trying to get my grade up, and it became a competition within myself to do better and better.

RETREATS: The retreats are so different from day to day life because there are no electronics allowed at all. It creates a lot of undistracted time for learning about who you are and who others are, too. I've done all the retreats so far and think it's good to have time to reflect, think and just relax and have quality time to spend with friends. I've signed up to go on a Companions service immersion trip this year.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE: St. Luke's Mission of Mercy is so impressive at Thanksgiving and Christmastime. I've volunteered there through Canisius and with my parish confirmation class. It's great to see hundreds of people coming together to sort and move food, all to help make someone else's holiday better. Also, this past summer I had the opportunity to be a HAP (Higher Achievement Program) camp for boys who've completed seventh grade) counselor. I was a HAP camper myself a few years ago and it was fun to be involved from a different perspective and lead a group of kids. I've seen some of the kids from my HAP group here this fall as they visit as Crusaders For The Day. I make a point of talking to them and asking how their day is going.

CANISIUS' IMPACT ON ME: My work ethic has changed and that's because of the atmosphere at the school. I work a lot harder because I'm pushed and encouraged by friends, teachers and other classmates to do better. I've always been a quiet person, and the opportunities offered at Canisius – clubs, being a HAP counselor and an Open House tour guide – have made me more open to taking on leadership roles.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Try new things. You'll learn so much about yourself by trying new things.

GREG SIMONIAN '19

"When I first came to Canisius I thought of volunteer service as a laborious task that I had to do, but now it's become something that I want to do."

HOMETOWN: Grand Island

ALUMNI RELATIVES: My dad, **Greg Simonian '84**, played quarterback for Canisius. My two uncles, **Barton Simonian '81** and **Peter Simonian '94**, were also good athletes at Canisius.

ACTIVITIES: Swimming is my sport. I compete in the 100 breaststroke, 200 free, 100 free and 50 free. When it's the off-season for the Canisius team, I swim for the Grand Island Piranhas club, so I'm swimming year-round. Every morning except Mondays I'm in the water at 5:30 for practice. I'm hoping I can continue competing at the college level. I'm also involved with the Young Republicans club at Canisius, and outside of school I belong to a youth group called Young Life which provides opportunities to talk about where Jesus fits in our lives.

COLLEGE/CAREER PLANS: Alfred University stands out for me so far. Not only does it have a swim team, it also has programs for mechanical engineering and ceramic engineering – two fields that interest me, and require good math skills.

FAVORITE CLASSES: Math is my favorite subject. I like that there is a process to finding an answer, and it's not just about memorizing things.

RETREATS: Kairos was by far more impactful for me than the earlier retreats. While the Freshman Retreat and Emmaus felt more like an introduction to concepts, Kairos was much deeper and emotional because we shared our individual personal stories. I learned what some of my classmates have been through, saw some people cry during the retreat, and it showed me that we always need to be there for each other.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE: Over the summer I participated in the "I Can Shine" bike camp where we worked with children with various challenges to help them learn to ride bicycles. Some kids had Down syndrome, some had Tourette syndrome, and it was challenging because each child reacted differently. I had to adapt my approach based on each child's abilities and reactions. As I reflect on the experience I can say that when I first came to Canisius I thought of volunteer service as a laborious task that I had to do, but now it's become something that I want to do. I've learned to recognize that people may not have the advantages that I've had, and yet I learn from them. People may be going through challenges, and I can be there for them.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Do the retreats and do as much volunteer service as possible. These things will change you forever.



SAM SULLIVAN '20

"The change that I've seen in myself so far is that I want to push myself to be a better person."

HOMETOWN: Clarence

BIRTHPLACE: Hong Kong. My family was living in Hong Kong because my dad had a job there, and that's where I spent the first ten years of my life.

FAVORITE CLASSES: Math and Science. Mr. Walters was my Physics teacher over the summer. He's good at explaining concepts, and I not only learned about physics from him, he also taught me a bit about calculus. That has been helpful to me so far this school year.

COLLEGE/CAREER PLANS: Planes are interesting to me. My grandfather flew the SR-71 – the fastest jet aircraft in the world. His story helped spark my interest in a possible career in aeronautical engineering.

ACTIVITIES: Varsity Crew, International Affairs, and Science Olympiad. I've been doing Science Olympiad going back to my previous school, St. Greg's. It's a fun way to learn about science and I enjoy the competition at the events.

RETREATS: Emmaus was a good experience. I felt I was able to connect with other students on the retreat in a way that doesn't happen on a regular day at school. I'm looking forward to doing a Kairos retreat and a Companions service immersion trip. My expectation is that Companions will be hard work but also fun, and spiritually fulfilling. The change that I've seen in myself so far is that I want to push myself to be a better person. If a classmate has a question that I can help with, I'm now more likely to step up, talk to him, and be the person who will help rather than keep to myself.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE: One experience that stands out for me is the senior citizen prom. It wasn't what I expected. I thought the student volunteers would be preparing and serving food, but we served as prom dates for senior citizens. We danced, ate, talked and played games. It was outside my comfort zone, but that's okay. It helped me gain a better understanding of myself and the senior citizens. They are more connected to the modern world and more active than I had given them credit for.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: Don't be afraid to branch out and meet new people. At first, I tried to stay within the circle of people I already knew, but I soon realized that there were some great people who weren't from my old school. I would have missed out on those friendships if I had stayed closed off.



A portrait of Chris Swagler '19, a young man with dark hair, smiling. He is wearing a light blue striped dress shirt, a dark red tie, and a brown leather belt. He is standing in a school hallway with blue lockers on the left and a staircase in the background.

CHRIS SWAGLER '19

"It can be easier to point out the differences between people when in reality the ways we are alike are much greater."

HOMETOWN: Williamsville

WHY I CAME TO CANISIUS: My family didn't have any prior connection to Canisius and I didn't have any real preconceived ideas about the school. When I visited, it felt like home right away. The students and teachers were friendly and everyone was very welcoming.

FAVORITE CLASSES: Science classes are always the most interesting to me. I've enjoyed AP Physics and AP Chemistry. Also, Mr. Anderson was my Latin teacher. I honestly wasn't all that excited about studying a foreign language going into his class, but he made it fun to learn. He's now my Grad at Grad mentor.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE: The past two summers I've volunteered at the Journey's End Refugee Services camp on Grand Island for children from refugee families. By playing games and doing activities with the kids, I felt I was able to bond with them. That's a cool experience because I can see the similarities between me and these children. It can be easier to point out the differences between people when in reality the ways we are alike are much greater. We are all humans and share similar desires.

COLLEGE PLANS: Northeastern is my top choice right now. My dad is an electrical engineer and I'm also planning to go into some type of engineering. Northeastern stands out to me for its cooperative education programs and opportunities to study abroad. The campus also has a good feel to it, and I like the city of Boston.

CANISIUS' IMPACT ON ME: My freshman year I was a lot more shy. I'm still a shy person, but I'm now able to move beyond my previous limits of where I was comfortable. My Kairos retreat helped me understand myself better and find a sense of peace, and service work too has helped me grow. In Canisius' motto "Men for and with Others," the "and with" is key. It's important to share experiences with people and not just do things for them. That's how we learn and grow.

ADVICE FOR FUTURE CRUSADERS: The retreats and service opportunities at this school will help you grow as a person, if you let them. The attitude you bring to everything you do is crucial. You have to have an open mind and decide that you want to be "for and with others."



CONNECTING GENERATIONS

AS CURRENT CANISIUS STUDENTS, THE POPAT BROTHERS ARE SPEARHEADING A NEW PROGRAM TO CONNECT STUDENTS AND ALUMNI FOR CAREER EXPLORATION.

Evan (left) and Alex Popat in Alumni Hall.

A couple of summers ago, **Alex Popat '19** was doing a three-week bioinformatics internship at the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute when he had a thought: "Let's get Canisius alumni more involved."

The idea was simple. Alumni are currently working in a wide variety of career fields. Students want to explore careers. Put the two together and internships can provide career experience for students and facilitate connections between students and alumni. "This could be a more personal approach to internships and alumni would be really invested in the students," Alex explains.

Alex enlisted the help of his brother, **Evan '20**, and the two set about making the idea a reality. They talked with school leadership, the Alumni Board of Governors, and Director of Alumni Relations **Jay Josker '01** who all loved the idea. "I frequently hear from alumni who ask what they can do to impact our current students and be more involved with the school," says Jay. "This new program is a great opportunity for alumni to share their expertise with the next generation."

To start, the program will connect alumni with rising seniors for summer internships or shadow opportunities, with future plans to include rising juniors and add opportunities during the school year.

"We think this program will prepare students for job hunting, and there's a self-discovery aspect," Evan says. "A student can get a feel for a work environment to help him determine if it's the right field for him. We want students to be able to explore different career options before they go to college and commit to majors."

"Let's get Canisius alumni more involved."

Alex and Evan are preparing a survey for the junior class to gauge interest in the program and specific career fields. Evan could be one of the initial student participants in the program this summer, but not Alex since he's graduating in the spring. "It's been challenging to take this from the idea stage and actually make it happen. I've never taken on a big project such as this before," says Alex, "And, even though I won't benefit from the program as a student, I think it's good for the school. I just want to help."

Alumni who would like to offer internships or shadow opportunities are encouraged to contact the Canisius office of alumni relations at 716-200-0264 or josker@canisiushigh.org.



GAMBIT XLV • CO-CHAIRS

MARCH 30, 2019 WILL MARK THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF GAMBIT, WESTERN NEW YORK'S PREMIER DINNER AUCTION AND THE MAJOR FUNDRAISER FOR CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL.

Serving as co-chairs for GAMBIT XLV are (pictured left to right) Matt '94 and Heather Vukelic, Mike '89 and Pam Smith, and Robert '81 and Susan Basil.

Matt Vukelic '94 is involved with his family's business — Try-It Distributing — and his parents were active with GAMBIT in its early years. The Vukelic family legacy at Canisius began with Matt's father **Eugene '48** who was among the first to start classes at the school's current location on Delaware Avenue. Matt and Heather are the parents of **Jack '21**.

Mike Smith '89 is the owner of Mike Smith Buick GMC where he applies the values he learned from his Jesuit education. He and his wife Pam are the parents of **Brigham '22** and **William '22** as well as two daughters who attend Nardin Academy. Pam is the daughter of **Clarence John Zavitz '57** and the sister of **David Zavitz '92**.

Robert Basil '81 is president of Robert Basil Buick GMC Cadillac. His parents were involved with GAMBIT in its early years. Robert and Susan's sons **Robert, Jr. '21** and **Jack '22** are continuing the Basil family's long legacy with Canisius that includes Robert's father **Joe Basil, Sr. '50**, and Robert's five brothers and seven nephews.

Thank you to the Vukelics, Smiths and Basils for serving as this year's co-chair couples!

We hope you will join us for the celebration on March 30. Learn more about how you can support GAMBIT and the quality Jesuit education at Canisius by visiting canisiushigh.org/gambit.



ALUMNI EVENTS

The alumni network is one of Canisius' strengths. The school offers several events throughout the year for alumni.



Former NFL lineman and current mathematics Ph.D. candidate **John Urschel '09** served as keynote speaker at this year's Fr. Sturm Legacy Fund Luncheon. **Jack Westermeier '19** (left) and **Joel Nicholas '19** (center) gave Mr. Urschel a gift on behalf of the school.



FR. STURM LEGACY FUND LUNCHEON

Named after the late Fr. John G. Sturm, S.J. '35 who served as the Prefect of Discipline at Canisius for 19 years, the Legacy Fund provides tuition assistance for young men who might not otherwise be able to attend Canisius. The Fund also helps cover athletic department expenses that go beyond the school budget allocation.

This year's Fr. Sturm Legacy Fund Luncheon honored Canisius' head varsity football coach Rich Robbins. Since he became head coach in 2011, the Crusaders have won five Monsignor Martin league titles and two state titles.



CHILLY CHALLENGE TURNS 40

Mark your calendars for March 24, 2019 –
the 40th Annual Canisius Chilly Challenge 5K

DID YOU KNOW...?

- The Chilly Challenge began as a way for the Canisius track coach to gauge the condition of his distance runners in February
- **Chris O'Brien '81** is credited with coming up with the name "Chilly Challenge"
- The Chilly Challenge is believed to be the longest consecutively run 5k race in Western New York
- The early years averaged 100-200 runners
- Recent years have averaged 470 runners
- More than 180 awards are presented each year in individual and team categories that include husband-wife, father-son, mother-son, father-daughter, mother-daughter, and grandparent-grandchild, as well as three-person teams.

"I love the fact that I can see many alumni old and young, current students and many people I know from the community," says former Canisius teacher Jeff Gemmer who founded the race 40 years ago and continues to organize it today.

Sign up for the Chilly Challenge at canisiushigh.org/events.

OTHER UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

ALUMNI HOCKEY GAME

Date: Saturday, December 29, 2018

Time: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Riverworks,
359 Ganson Street, Buffalo

Join your fellow alumni on the ice. All alumni, not just alums of the Canisius hockey program, are welcome to take part in the game and post game celebration at Riverworks. Sign up at canisiushigh.org/alumhockey.

JUG NIGHT

Date: Friday, January 25, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Canisius High School

JUG is much more fun as an alumnus. Enjoy all-you-can-eat beefsteak, plus drinks, a cigar tent, and camaraderie. Sign up at canisiushigh.org/register.

ALUMNI WEEKEND

Dates: Friday-Saturday,
June 14-15, 2019

Location: Canisius High School

Alumni Weekend features the All Alumni Bash, the Alumni Golf Classic, and events for individual classes. Save the dates. More details to come.

ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Share your news. Email CHStoday@canisiushigh.org



Richard Griffin '50 (photo left) is the 2018 recipient of the Legal Elite Lifetime Achievement Award. As a litigator, he worked on landmark cases and represented the Board of Education for Buffalo city schools in the 1979 desegregation trial. He later shifted to mediation and arbitration work.

Charles Cavaretta '53 is fully retired from medical practice. He is spending one day a week at the El Paso PLF Texas Tech Medical School teaching medical skills. He and his wife, Teresa (Martin), are residing at White Acres Senior Living Center.

Joe Godfrey, S.J. '56 has retired from teaching at Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, where he was a professor of philosophy and held the Joseph Hogan, S.J. Chair in Philosophy. He hopes to write as energy permits.

Rev. James Lackenmier, CSC '56 traded the sunshine of Florida this past summer to move to Notre Dame for a new assignment as Religious Superior of a retirement community of Holy Cross priests.



James Byron '63 and his wife Dolores (photo left, on the right and center) were honored, along with **Greg Yungbluth '67** (on left in photo), with Outstanding Service Awards from St. Benedict's parish in Amherst.



Nelson Civello '63 (photo left) was awarded the Dr. Richard A. Shick Award by Canisius College recognizing his contributions to the success of Canisius' business school and the college. He graduated from Canisius College with a degree in economics and philosophy, and earned his MBA from Bowling Green State University. Nelson has served as a business leader, philanthropist, volunteer, professor, mentor and community planner.

George Pfohl, MD '66 received the Herb Siegel Visionary Award at the Olmsted Center for Sight's annual Dining In The Dark Gala on September 11, 2018. George is an eye physician and partner at Eye Care & Vision Associates.

Robert Koza '67 gave a talk to Wood Badge teachers of the Boy Scouts of America aboard the USS Little Rock on September 23, 2018. The talk was about four chaplains who gave up their life jackets and died to save men on a capsizing ship during World War II.



Jacob Filby '14, Kyle Cramer '13 and Ethan Moeller '14 returned to Canisius this school year as Alumni Volunteers.

2018-2019 ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS

Kyle graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in History from Canisius College. As an Alumni Volunteer, he is working with students in History and English classes. He also serves part-time in the dean's office and helps coach the freshman crew team.

Jacob earned a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies with a concentration in Public Policy at the University of Delaware. He is assisting with Earth Science classes, the yearbook, and working in the alumni relations office. He is also serving as the head coach of the freshman crew team.

Ethan graduated Summa Cum Laude from John Carroll University with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Criminology. He is serving as a teaching assistant for History classes, coaching the Science Olympiad team, and assisting the Canisius Drama Guild and communications office.

To learn more about the Alumni Volunteer Corps, including how to apply, please contact **Will Wolf '09** at wolf@canisiushigh.org.

Tom Shevlin '67 has retired with his wife Carol to their cottage in Ridgeway, ON. His career in Toronto culminated with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change. Tom plans to pursue personal projects in audio, acoustics and music.

Tom Fontana '69 was the guest speaker at The Downtown Jesuits Distinguished Speaker Series on November 10, 2018 at St. Michael's church in downtown Buffalo. Tom has written and produced groundbreaking television series including "St. Elsewhere", "Homicide: Life On The Street", and "Oz".

Peter Kreher '70 will be retiring in March of 2019 after 45 years with Northwestern Mutual as a wealth management associate, and from Manresa Jesuit Retreat House as chairman of the board. He will continue his service at Manresa by working with the strategic planning committee on expanding the facility through the addition of a new spirituality center for younger retreatants.

Chet Labedz '70 reconnected with some of his classmates in New England in August. **Rob Gian '70** flew in from his home in France and coordinated the get-together with Chet, **Chet Franczyk '70** and **Dave Sullivan '70**. "Some old artifacts – mimeographs from AP History and Latin 1, plus the 1970 Arena – helped to shrink all the years since we walked out those blue doors," said Chet Labedz.



Michael O'Connell '73 (photo left) changed careers after 30+ years in the public affairs and event management industry. He decided to follow another passion – real estate. In September of 2017 he affiliated with the Washington, DC office of Sotheby's International Realty, Georgetown. In his first nine months as a realtor, Michael had a number of transactions totaling nearly 4 million dollars. Michael invites alumni to email him at MOConnell@ttrsir.com.

Keith Wiley '74 was honored by Buffalo Black Achievers, Inc. with a 2018 Black Achievers Award. Keith teaches math at PS 69 Houghton Academy in Buffalo.



Michael Morse '77 (photo left) hiked to the summit of Kilimanjaro in July 2018. He also enjoyed a safari in Ngorongoro and Serengeti. "It was the culmination of a dream I have had for many years, and it did not disappoint," Michael says. "If you're thinking of hiking Kilimanjaro, let me know. I would be happy to talk with you."

James Pugliese '77 is trying again to retire. "Hasn't stuck the last eight times. Maybe this time it will," says James. He adds that as he looks back, he realizes that without his time at Canisius, he may never have achieved the title of Chef de Cuisine (executive chef) with an exclusive catering and entertainment enterprise. "I wish to thank all those in the class of '77 for all your help, respect and encouragement during my time at Canisius," James says. "I hope all of you have achieved all your goals, hopes, and aspirations. It is my fervent wish that you, and your entire families, whether they attended Canisius or not, get everything you truly deserve in life."



Don Parker '78 (photo left) retired after 38 years working in the technology and financial services industries. In his retirement he is continuing his education by studying social science and government, he is also volunteering in the public education system in Oklahoma, watching his five grandkids and working on his golf game with his wife of 40 years.



Brian Kempker '83 (photo left) recently returned from four years overseas working in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. "Nice people, nice job but time to come home (Tucson, AZ)," Brian says. He adds that the job afforded him the opportunity to travel and visit 16 countries. He is pictured here at the Western (Wailing) Wall in Jerusalem.

Rick Musialowski, Jr. M.D. '83 is the director of cardiovascular education at Sanger Heart and Vascular Institute and Atrium Healthcare in Charlotte N.C.

Gregory Siemankowski '83 has returned to practicing law. He joined FVF Law in Austin, Texas as an attorney after a two-year sojourn into corporate management.



Artisan Culinary Loft is run by his wife, Samantha Hyde Draper-Telaak, a 1986 graduate of Nardin Academy.

Kevin Telaak '85 recently completed a major renovation of a kitchen and dining event space for culinary exploration (photo left) on Amherst Street in the historic Black Rock section of Buffalo. The new

TELL US WHAT'S NEW

- *Started a new job?*
- *Got married?*
- *Welcomed a baby?*
- *Retired?*
- *Wrote a book?*
- *Starred in a play?*
- *Won a championship?*
- *Launched a business?*
- *Celebrated an anniversary?*
- *Traveled the world?*

Whatever you've been up to, your fellow Crusaders would like to hear about it. To share your news, email CHStoday@canisiushigh.org. Photos are encouraged.

You may also mail news to:

CHS Today
Canisius High School
1180 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209

CORRECTIONS FROM SUMMER 2018 CHS TODAY

Michael D. Madden '67 should have been included in the Alumni Class Giving section of the 2017-2018 annual report with the Class of 1967 list.

Fr. Charles Frederico, S.J. should have been included on the list of the 2017-2018 Board of Trustees.

We apologize for the omissions.

Ron Raccuia '86 was named chair of the ECMC Foundation's board of directors.

Lawrence Whistler, CFA '86 was appointed to the board of directors for Catholic Health in Buffalo. Lawrence is the president and chief investment officer for Nottingham Advisors.



Rajeev Ramchand '95 (photo left) recently joined the Cohen Veterans Network (CVN) as senior vice president of research after 12 years of conducting research at the RAND Corporation. CVN is a new organization that provides low or no cost mental and behavioral health care to veterans and their families. CVN has ten clinics throughout the United States with plans to grow to 25 clinics by 2020. In his new position, Rajeev is responsible for

designing and guiding CVN's research agenda and for conducting research within the network.



Joe Hanna '98 (photo left) was honored by the University at Buffalo with the 2018 George W. Thorn Award. The award is given every year to a UB alumnus under 40 who has made outstanding contributions to his or her career field or academic area. Joe is the founder and chair of the Goldberg Segalla law firm's sports and entertainment practice group, chair of the retail and hospitality practice group, and a partner in the corporate services

and commercial litigation practice group. He is also the founder and president of Bunkers in Baghdad, a nonprofit that collects and sends golf equipment to U.S. soldiers and veterans worldwide to aid in rehabilitation from injuries.



Tom Sippel '80 created a beautiful stone work of art and installed it by the student entrance to the new Canisius Center for the Arts.

Angelo Calabrese '00 was named head coach of the Canisius High School JV volleyball team.

Pete Rizzo '01 is overseeing approximately 500 sales and service associates at a new GEICO facility in North Liberty, Iowa.

Ryan Edward Kalb '03 has been living, studying, and working abroad in cities including London, Bangkok, Berlin and is currently in Shanghai. Among work translating, writing for expat magazines, and event production, he also teaches literature and German as a foreign language within the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program curriculum.

Jack Goods '13 started a new job in November 2018 as the sports editor for the Leader Telegram, a newspaper in Eau Claire, WI. Jack spent the previous year working for The Buffalo News.

Michael Torcello '14 graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2018. He is now in his first year of study at Harvard Law School.

Trevor Gooch '15 was awarded a National Student Athlete Award from the NCAA.

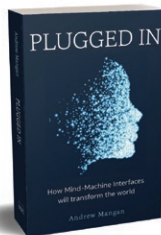
Andy Helwig '15 is the new radio play-by-play voice of the Canisius College men's basketball team.

Richard Miller '15 was named the Player of the Year for the Prospect Baseball League. Richard is a senior at Towson University and played baseball this past summer for the Springfield Sliders of the Prospect League.

John McMahon '16 and **Michael Gagliano '17** helped lead the John Carroll University Blue Steaks to a second consecutive CMHA hockey playoff championship in 2018.

JP Bobak '17 earned AMCC soccer all-conference honors for a second straight year. JP plays midfield for Franciscan University.

Devin Joslyn '17 made the USA Volleyball Junior National Team which competed in the U21 Continental Championships in Cuba in August 2018.



Andrew Mangan '18 has written a book titled "Plugged In: How Mind Machine Interfaces Will Transform the World." Andrew's interest in brain-computer interfaces was sparked during his recovery from a severe spinal cord injury. He has a goal of developing an understanding of how we might use brain-computer interfaces to better link our minds and our bodies.

WEDDINGS



Gregory Siemankowski '83 and Topaz Rosin (photo left) were married at a ceremony in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado on July 26, 2018.

Nick Zinter '01 married Maggie Ovitt at St. Michael's Church on August 18, 2018. **Fr. James Van Dyke, S.J. '77** officiated the wedding.



Bradley J. Bethel, Jr. '04 and Felicia H. Welch (photo left) were wed at Friendship Baptist Church in Buffalo on Saturday, July 14, 2018.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Salvatore Termini '42 and his wife Sandy celebrated 65 years of marriage on November 4, 2018.

Paul Becker '49 and his wife Ceil celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on August 16, 2018.

Steve "Jerry" DiPasquale '52 and his wife Frances celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 29, 2018. Steve says, "We are still in pretty good health and thank God for all He has done for us." They have 14 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. Steve and Frances have a home in Pendleton, NY and a place in Boca Raton, FL. Steve retired from Pfizer, Inc. after 33 years as a senior medical representative.



Donald Jankowski '54 enjoyed a trip of a lifetime to Paris and Rome with his wife, Lorraine, on their 57-year marriage anniversary (photo left).

BIRTHS

Ryan Cannon '01 and his wife Kara welcomed their third child, Madeline Ann, on October 30, 2018.

John Pitts '01 and wife Meghan welcomed a baby girl, Olivia, on July 26, 2018.

Dan Grady '03 and his wife Katie welcomed baby boy, Nolan Daniel, on July 19, 2018.



Justin Josker '06 and his wife Jessica welcomed their first child, Vivian Claire (photo left), on October 31, 2018.

IN MEMORIAM

We remember alumni of whose passing we've learned since summer 2018.

George "Ray" Bowman '41	Carl E. Forrest '54
James J. Laux '46	Edward M. Hohensee '56
Jeremiah V. McGinley '46	Alfred J. Panneri '56
William P. Poorten, S.J. '48	Earl F. Daigler '58
Richard F. Stepien '49	Anthony M. Eusanio '67
Leonard P. Litwin '50	Kevin Galvin '68
Patrick G. Lucey '50	Patrick H. Hoak '68
Peter R. Nadolny '50	Matthew J. Keeves '78
Gerald P. Philipps '50	Matthew S. Whetzle '84
George S. Parlato '51	



The Mission Continues

If you, or someone you know, has an interest in a shared life of service to others as a Jesuit, please visit BeAJesuit.org.



TIM FITZGERALD

The Canisius community mourns the loss of former principal Mr. Tim Fitzgerald. He passed away in October after a lengthy illness.

He served in the following roles at Canisius over the years:

1996-2003 Religion teacher

2003-2007 Dean of students/assistant principal of discipline

2007-2008 History teacher

2008-2010 Assistant principal/academics

2010-2014 Principal



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Minimizes the effect your giving has on your cash flow. The gift is from your assets, not your checkbook.