



CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL TODAY THE IMPACT REPORT

SUMMER 2019





CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL

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CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL TODAY SUMMER 2019

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WHAT'S INSIDE

ON THE COVER

Left to right: C.J. Lenahan '20, Trevor Mason '20, and Eric Kegler '20 in the makerspace lab.

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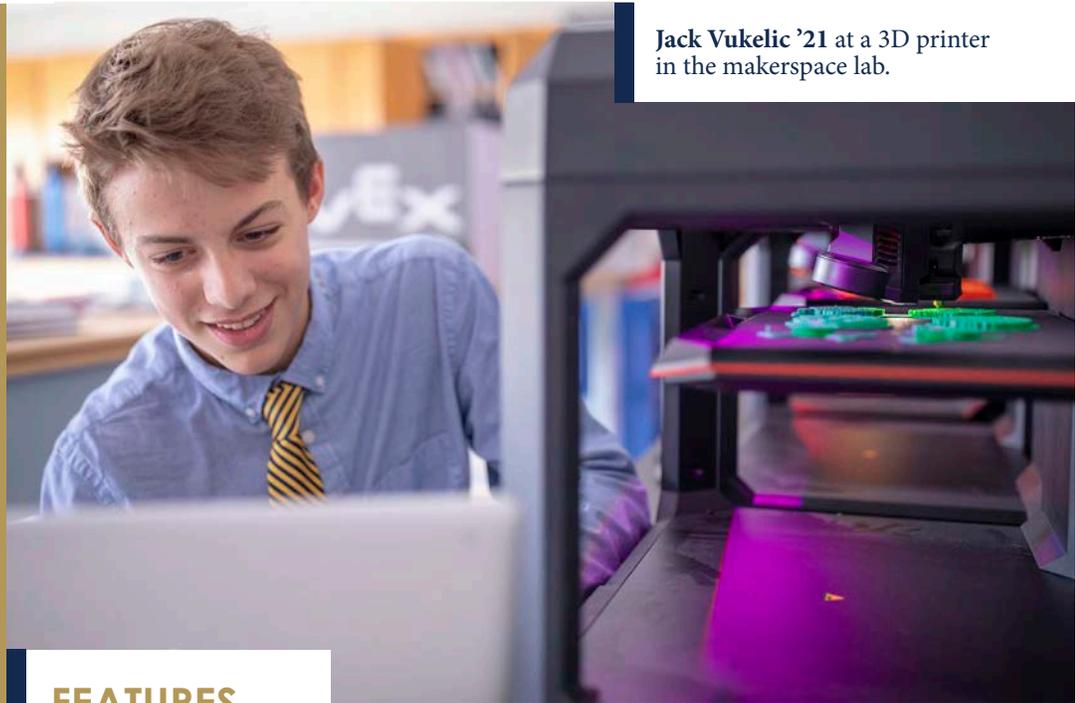
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With Fr. Ciancimino, left to right, **Ismael Attuwaybi '21**, **Ron Cauley '21**, **Joe Smolarek '20**, and **Troy Toohey '20**.

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

“This is an exciting time to be at Canisius.”

I've said this many times since my return to Canisius and I've meant it every time. It's a great time to be at Canisius and even more so as we begin our sesquicentennial celebration.

Even with the bold vision they had for a school in the City of Buffalo, those early Jesuits who opened the school in 1870, with just a handful of students, could never have imagined how the high school would prosper, evolve and grow. Our students come from 140 schools and 35 school districts across Western New York as well as Canada, China, and Korea.

Today, students program robots, develop apps, and design games while 3D printers whir in the makerspace lab; each student uses his own assigned iPad to receive, work on, and submit class assignments; the library may have fewer hard copy books, but it has more resources than ever with access to digital materials; students on service immersion trips anywhere in the world share images of their experiences instantly thanks to the internet.

It's astonishing how much has developed at Canisius since I began my first assignment here as a young priest in 1989. That's not just with technology but with our facilities, too. The Montante Academic Center, the Kennedy Field House, the Stransky Athletic Complex, and the Center for the Arts have all been added within the last 10 years or so. Outstanding growth. As Buffalo has grown, so has Canisius.

While much has changed, the foundation on which the school was built remains firm. Our Jesuit mission is shared and shouldered by an outstanding faculty and staff. A hallmark of Jesuit education has always been caring for the whole person and helping each

young man to discover and develop his talents for the service of others, and God's greater glory.

“Those early Jesuits who opened the school in 1870...could never have imagined how the high school would prosper, evolve and grow.”

It's exciting to be celebrating 150 years of service to our city, nation and Church. You will see real life examples of living this mission on the pages ahead through the reflections of alumni, as well as some who've taught them or raised them.

This issue of Canisius High School Today is also our annual report in which we highlight and express our deep gratitude for our benefactors. The excellent Jesuit education at Canisius endures, and indeed thrives, because of the support of generous donors, and so in conjunction with our sesquicentennial celebration we've launched a capital campaign which will move into the public phase soon. It's a campaign with a bold vision for the future of Canisius that builds upon the school's rich traditions. I look forward to sharing more details of the campaign with you in the months ahead.

I will say it once again – it is an exciting time to be at Canisius!

Thank you for your continued care and support.

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



With Ms. Tyrpak-Endres, left to right: **Aidan Doyle '19**, **Matt Jackson '19**, **Blaise Doyle '19**, **Noah Spiesz '19**, **Brendan Leong '19**, **Philip Frieary '19**, and **Alex Popat '19**.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...

"Men for Others" is a phrase we see and hear quite often in a Jesuit school. It's a motto that's easy to remember about the type of men we aim to form at Canisius. A fuller, more accurate, version of the phrase is "Men and Women for and with Others." This summer, I had the opportunity to experience these words in action.

Some may think the principal works in an office somewhat removed from the day to day lives of students. I prefer not to be that type of principal. I teach—a few of the recently graduated seniors from my Honors College Religion class this year are pictured with me above—and I served as one of the leaders on a first-of-its-kind Companions service immersion trip to Yap this summer. Yap is a small island, part of the Federated States of Micronesia, literally on the other side of the world.

The Yap immersion trip differed a bit from some of the other Companions trips at Canisius. This was the first time we've gone to Yap, and this immersion focused more on being "with" the people rather than doing "for" them—although we painted an elementary school and cleared a jungle for a new building on the high school campus.

In Yap, Canisius students worked alongside their peers from Yap Catholic High School—a school built and founded by **Fr. Michael Corcoran, S.J. '76** (now our director of campus ministry at Canisius).



Dan Sippel '20 (left) and **Evan Popat '20** (center) worked with Yap Catholic High School students on refurbishing desks.

Interestingly, when our president, Fr. Ciancimino, was the provincial superior of the Jesuits he missioned Fr. Corcoran to Yap to establish the school at the request of the local church community there.

"Imagine the potential for other connectivity between students from Canisius and the other Jesuit schools around the world."

Through our work, Canisius and Yap students forged relationships—a type of peer kinship that isn't always possible on other immersion trips. It was a blessing to work alongside our new Yapese friends and an experience our students and I will not soon forget.

As Canisius celebrates its 150th anniversary this year, it's an excellent time to reflect on our school's history and how it has grown to what it is today, but a time also to look ahead and imagine the possibilities for the future.

Canisius is part of a network of 62 Jesuit high schools in the United States and 380 secondary schools worldwide. Imagine the potential for other connectivity between students from Canisius and the other Jesuit schools around the world. Thanks to ever-evolving modern technology, we have greater opportunities than ever to connect virtually with classrooms in our Jesuit schools around the globe — expanding the scope of learning and creating global friendships.

Canisius continues to form "Men for Others," and as we head into the future, beyond these first 150 years, we face exciting possibilities for putting that motto into action as we grow "for and with others."

Respectfully,

Andrea Tyrpak-Endres

Ms. Andrea Tyrpak-Endres

CANISIUS THROUGH THE YEARS

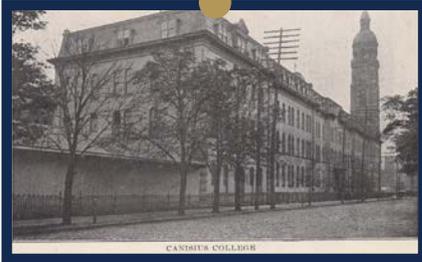
1870

1912

1928

1944

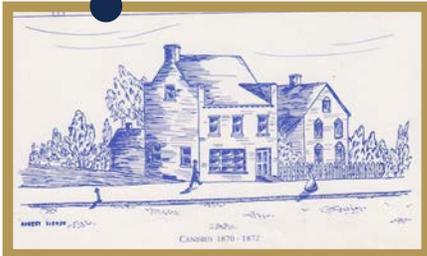
1948



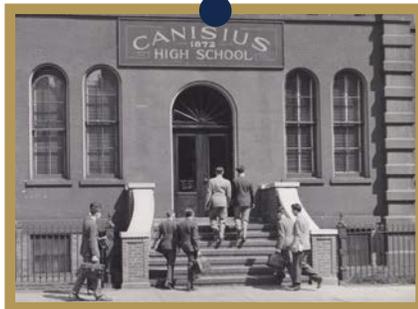
In 1912, with Canisius High School enrollment at 379 students, the college moved to Main Street. This left the Washington Street campus entirely to the high school.



In 1944, the Jesuits purchased the former Masonic Consistory, which had incorporated the Rand mansion, at 1180 Delaware Avenue. After splitting classes between the two campuses from 1944 to 1948, all students moved to the Delaware Avenue campus in September 1948. The Washington Street campus was demolished in 1951.



Founded by German Jesuits, Canisius opened its doors at 434 Ellicott Street on September 5, 1870, with 35 students in the combined high school and college. Two years later, the cornerstone was laid for a new building on Washington Street adjacent to St. Michael's Church.



The high school received a separate charter on September 27, 1928, completing its separation from the college.



After nearly two years of construction, the Beecher wing, with three floors of classrooms and a basement cafeteria, was blessed on August 29, 1948. The wing was renovated in 1980.



1956 > 2000 > 2007 > 2009 > 2017



In 1956, Frauenheim Hall, a residence for the Jesuits at Canisius High School, was dedicated. The expansion was funded by the Frauenheim Foundation, founded by **Edward '32** and **George Frauenheim '30** in honor of their parents.



Groundbreaking for the Robert J. Stransky Memorial Athletic Complex in West Seneca took place in 2007. The complex would become the home field for the football, track, soccer, lacrosse and rugby teams.



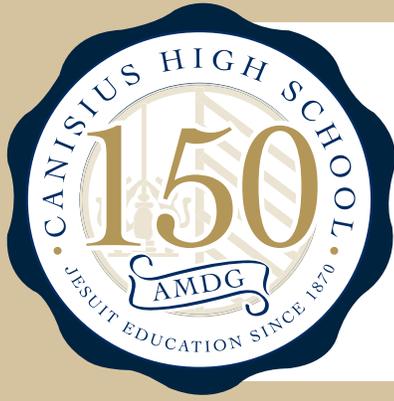
In 2017, the school purchased the former Conners mansion across West Ferry Street from the main campus and turned it into the school's Center for the Arts with 13,000 square feet of fine arts classroom and gallery space.



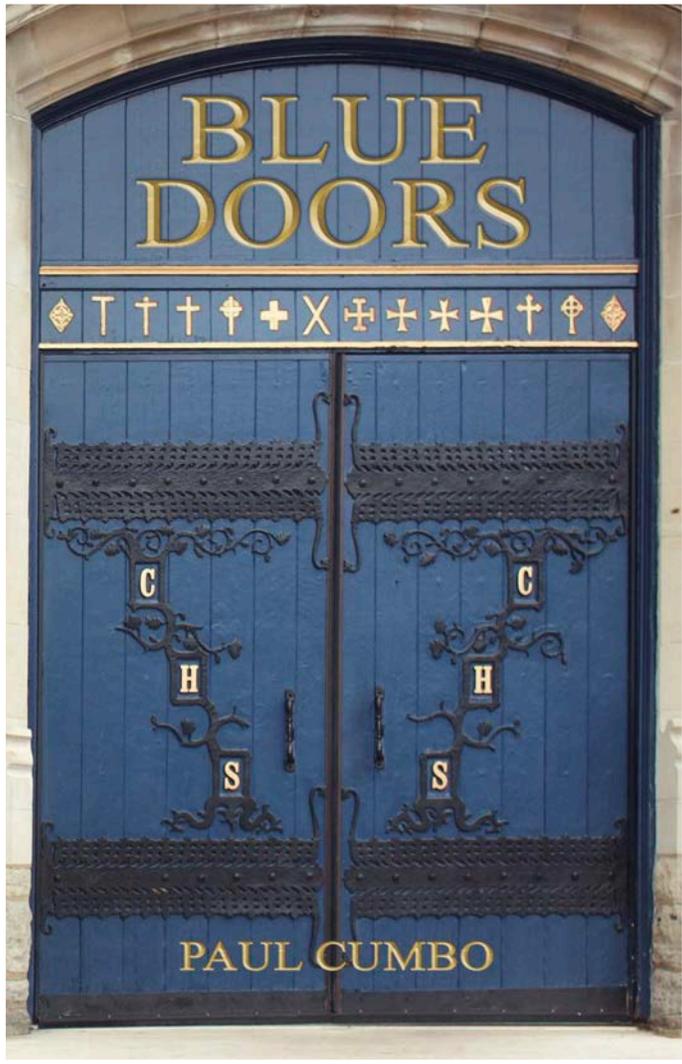
With the new century came a new look for the school's back field. Artificial turf was installed on Tripi Field in 2000.



Two major construction projects reached completion in 2009 – the Bernard J. Kennedy Field House on the site of the demolished Frauenheim Hall, and the Montante Academic Hall.



CANISIUS' HISTORY



HOPING FOR PEACE

The 1945 *Arena* yearbook leaves no question that the war was a defining aspect of life for the young men of this class. The very first item on the very first page is an image of the invading troops at Normandy, with the caption, “Armies win a peace.” This is followed immediately by another photo, of the Yalta Conference (February 4, 1945), with the caption “Statesmen plan a peace...but...” When the page is turned, the following text continues: “The concept of a life of peace as we see it is an enduring, lifelong pattern woven together from the following materials. Inspiration – Leadership. The Other Man’s View point. Competition – Friendly Rivalry. Fusing the Elements of Peace. Achievement – Man of Peace.”

In Father Redmond’s *Rector’s Letter* in the 1945 *Arena*, the dark pall of war still weighs heavily upon the sober message:

The close of your four years at Canisius is almost simultaneous with the end of bloodshed and cruelty all over the world. It will be for you to then rebuild the society that we were not wise enough to build well. Yours is the opportunity and necessity to find successfully the formula that will enable all of us to live together as peaceful people.

The mistakes of our generation need not be your mistakes. The lessons that we learned at the bitter price of global war you may profit by. The blunders in understanding and cooperation that we made you can correct. The failures that were ours you should never repeat.

Peace is built by the individual in his dealings with others. Here you have learned for four years, on the ball field, in the classroom, in debate and club room the value of getting along with your fellows. Your most cherished memories will always be the times you spent working or playing with your friends. Those memories are the seeds of peace in your own lives and in the life of the world. Keep those memories. Join to them the ideals you have learned here. Add the spirit of prayer and hard, cooperative work and you have the beginnings of that formula for peace that we were too blind to see. God bless you and give courage to your hearts for the task that lies ahead of you.

Sincerely in Christ, James J. Redmond, S.J.

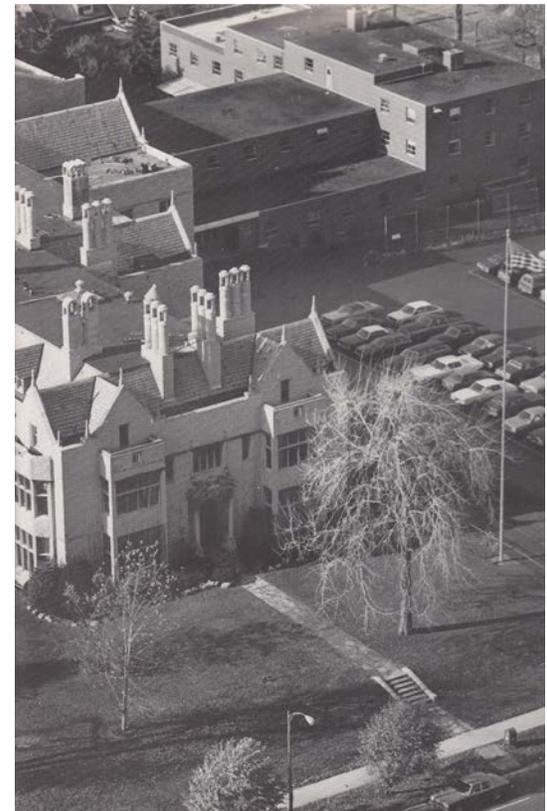
It is with this tempered optimism, and the impending end of the war, that the “new era” of Canisius High School began. 1945 is the first year that saw students at the Delaware Avenue campus.

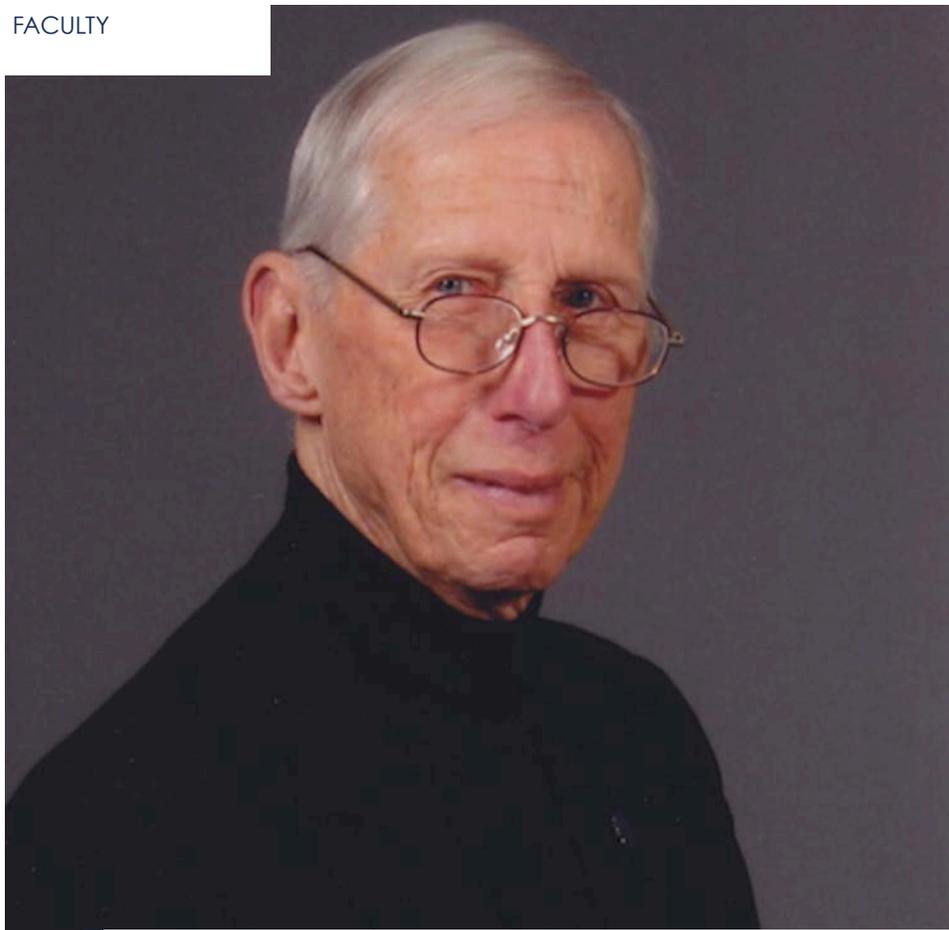
A new book that explores the 150-year history of Canisius High School, written by **Paul Cumbo '97**, has been released in conjunction with the school's sesquicentennial celebration. We've printed an excerpt here about the transition period in the mid 1940s. *Blue Doors* can be purchased at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

THE TRANSITION TO DELAWARE

It was a relatively short timeframe, then, in which Canisius made the transition from its Washington Street Campus to the dedication of the new wing at 1180 Delaware. Arguably, this process began with the appointment of **George Evans '18** to the Common Council and thus his becoming aware of the opportunity to secure the property and ended with the dedication of the new classroom wing in August 1948. See timeline below:

- **January 3, 1944:** Evans named President Pro Temp of Buffalo Common Council
- **February 29, 1944:** Canisius' offer to purchase 1180 Delaware Avenue is recorded in the Common Council minutes
- **March 14, 1944:** The Common Council Committee on Finance passes the resolution to accept the CHS offer (CHS buys the property)
- **1944-1945 Academic Year:** Freshmen (only) begin classes at 1180; upperclassmen remain at Washington Street
- **1945-1946 Academic Year:** Freshmen and sophomores attend 1180; juniors and seniors attend Washington Street
- **1946-1947 Academic Year:** Freshmen and sophomores attend 1180; juniors and seniors attend Washington Street
- **November, 1946:** Groundbreaking for classroom wing at 1180
- **1947-1948 Academic Year:** Freshmen and sophomores attend 1180; juniors and seniors attend Washington Street
- **1948-1949 Academic Year:** All classes attend 1180 Delaware
- **Transformation:** From Consistory to School
- Notes in the CHS Archives of the "Consultors' Minutes" recall that on "June 10, 1944—Sat—A meeting was held today to determine ways and means of making the Delaware Ave. property available for the fall term. It was decided to use the new building for the first-year high students, so that we could raise the tuition from \$120 to \$150. Even at this early date, the prospects for an overwhelming registration look great." Months later, the Minutes include: "August 7, 1944—Mon—On Saturday last, high school registration for 1st year went over 300 mark. This is probably a record. The Prefect of Studies plans to start a waiting list."
- A typewritten summary of the plans for campus development, which this author discovered buried in the archives, is undated with no author indicated. Despite attempts to determine the original source, he was unsuccessful. Given the similarity in style to the aforementioned "Consultors Minutes," it is this author's best guess that this summary was generated from those Minutes, perhaps derived from an architectural plan.





BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

BY FR. P. S. NAUMANN, S.J.

Fr. Paul Naumann, S.J. taught at Canisius High School for more than 30 years in the 1960s, '70s, '80s, and '90s. He currently serves as part of the Le Moyne College Jesuit Community.

Always begin in the concrete, I taught my students. So, “Good grief! 500 words! That’s practically a novel!” I don’t think I ever asked my students to write 500 words, at least not all in one assignment. Not knowing immediately where or how to begin this assignment, I sit in my window gazing out at the roof and tree tops of East Syracuse. Oddly enough, what floats up first in my memory is the Canisius auditorium/gym, where I did much of my best work and made some of my worst decisions.

“But surely, Father, much (or most) of your best work was done in the classroom.”

“Of course one hopes that would be true, but the results from the classroom usually don’t show up as quickly or objectively as the results of a rehearsal.” And besides rehearsals, I DID spend a lot of time in the aud painting scenery with the help (gratefully accepted) of Sr. Loretta Webber from Nardin Academy down the street. Together we covered acres of muslin flats and, usually, for each production, painted a new design on the stage floor. We did this painting after dinner because the afternoons were taken up with rehearsals in the cafeteria until production time was hard upon us.

“About the classroom, Father?”

Yes. Just let me say one more about the aud. The gym floor took up about half of the aud, and that was, of course, the basketball floor. About two weeks

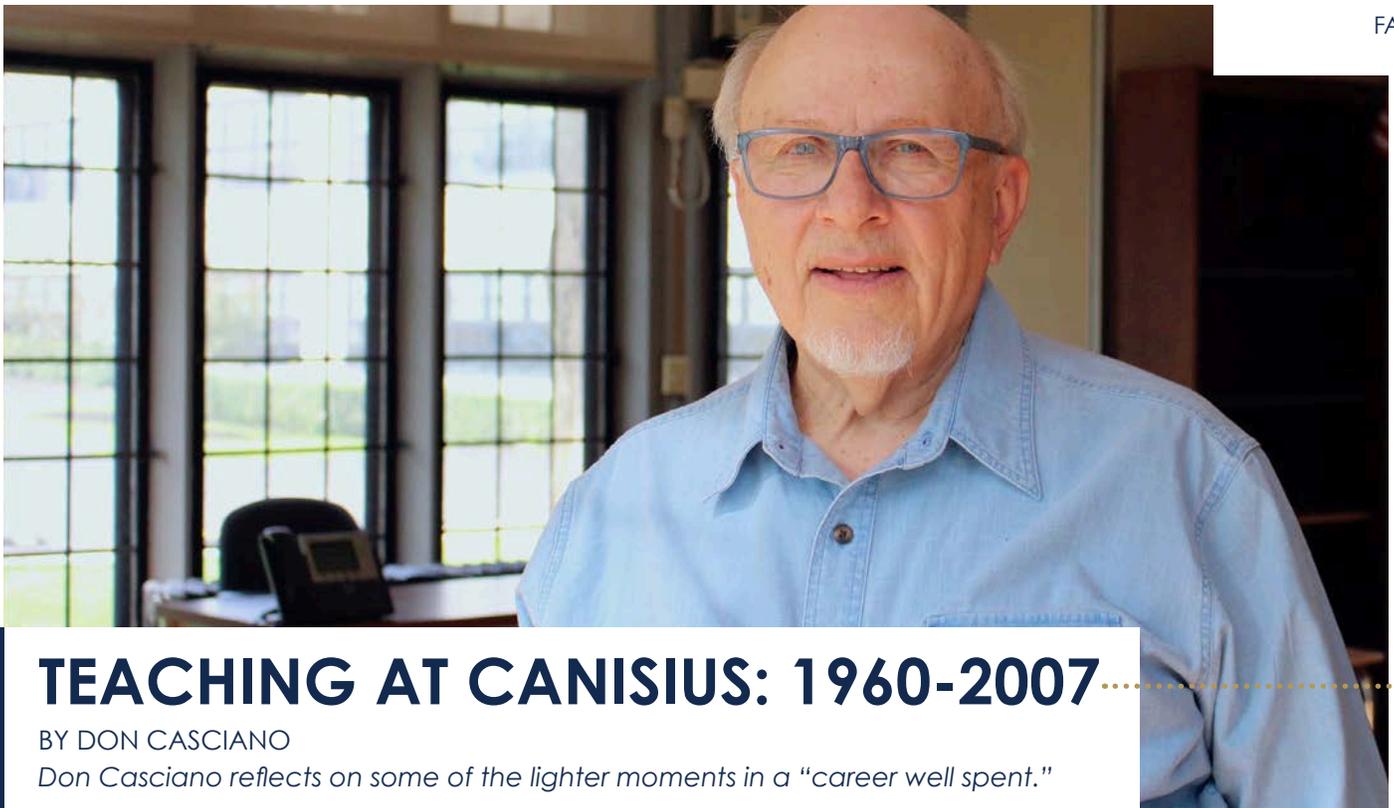
“What floats up first in my memory is the Canisius auditorium/gym, where I did much of my best work and made some of my worst decisions.”

before curtain time the basketball team moved graciously down to the small gym, with no arm wrestling necessary. I was always very grateful for that because my nervous energy extended just so far before giving out.

The classroom, ah yes, the classroom: two lines of poetry every night, or almost. “Why’s that?” I hear you ask. Lyric poetry is one of the fine arts, as is dramatic poetry. English poetry, in both categories, is as good as or better than any others. Furthermore, Shakespeare excelled at both kinds, and there is, perhaps, no better lyric poetry in English than that of the American Emily Dickinson. Some as good, some different, but none better. My best, greatest English teacher, in or out of the Society, Fr. Edwin D. Cuffe, S.J. had us young Jesuits memorize two lines a night. I was following his sterling example. Moreover, memory is a muscle and needs exercise.

I liked teaching. I even enjoyed it, sometimes more than others. I liked my students and even enjoyed them, inevitably some more than others. But they were all bright inevitably, etc., and a challenge, some a little more than others. But what would teaching be like if you were not challenged? Boring. Even when everything was rolling merrily along, the challenge remained.

Helpfully, I had found in my breviary what I thought was the perfect prayer to use before class. Once found I used it always: “Lord teach us goodness, discipline, and wisdom, and these gifts will keep us from becoming hardened by evil, weakened by laziness, or ignorant because of foolishness.” Amen.



TEACHING AT CANISIUS: 1960-2007

BY DON CASCIANO

Don Casciano reflects on some of the lighter moments in a "career well spent."

Beginning my teaching career at Canisius High School was a very interesting experience, but also a very daunting one. Besides the anxieties of being a new teacher, the 60s were quite a "trip!" Rapid social and cultural changes impacted greatly many aspects of schooling. To say the least, **Fr. John G. Sturm, S.J.** '35 was busy trying to enforce the dress code when beards, mustaches, and "casual dress" were becoming the norm.

Teachers wore black academic robes at that time, the distinguishing appearance of them being a line of chalk on the backside, where they made contact with the chalk tray.

My first classroom was the room at the far end of Berchman's Hall which has almost too many windows and is wide beyond one's peripheral vision. It seemed the classes I had there were a lively bunch!

When I first started at Canisius, homerooms were very organized and even had class dues. The dues were used for various things such as pizza parties. On one occasion a member of the homeroom (whose father worked at a racetrack) suggested that we could increase our treasury by betting on a horse. How ingenious some of our students can be!

One of the most important things a teacher must figure out (as soon as possible) is the "chemistry" of each of his or her classes. This isn't in an academic sense, but in the sense of determining who the leaders (troublemakers) and the followers (collaborators) are. Students can do silly things, like putting chalk in the erasers or shifting the classroom desks around. A teacher has to deal with many distractions in class and, of course, student misbehavior. With regard to the latter, we sometimes used JUG. JUG is one of the most talked about subjects amongst students and even alumni

long after they leave Canisius. The typical discussion I hear at Alumni JUG Night at Canisius is mostly humorous, and it goes along the lines of "the-so-much-unfairness-of-it." I mentioned to one alum that his conduct was so bad that I had his jug slip written in advance. Would you believe that he actually agreed with me?

.....

"My first classroom was the room at the far end of Berchman's Hall which has almost too many windows and is wide beyond one's peripheral vision."

.....

When I first started, I had the benefit of teaching with a large group of Jesuit scholastics along with many seasoned Jesuits and laymen who had taught at the Washington Street school. What a learning experience that was for me! I couldn't have picked a better group of mentors. The spirit and camaraderie of this group was fabulous.

Having a long career at CHS, I saw many changes in the curriculum, methods of teaching, organization of the school and the requirements of students. When I started teaching, many classes were chalk and talk, lectures so to speak. The introduction of TVs and then beyond into the computer age with the internet created so many changes one could hardly imagine.

When I go back to Canisius to visit, it's hard not to be impressed by the numerous changes in the facilities there. The new buildings are a real plus for the students. But, there is something of the past that hasn't changed and that's the Ignatian spirit that animates the entire Canisius community. Cura personalis is not just a phrase, but a lived experience, and a tradition to be passed on.

GUIDING GROWTH

BY MAUREEN T. SCHMITT

*Maureen Schmitt joined the Canisius High School board of trustees in 2009, she's the parent of **Dan '06** and **Mark '09**, and she's the CEO of Schmitt Sales, Inc.*



Loyalty, commitment, sacrifice, excellence, opportunity, friendship, diversity, service, faith-centered education – these are the words that come to mind when I reflect on Canisius High School.

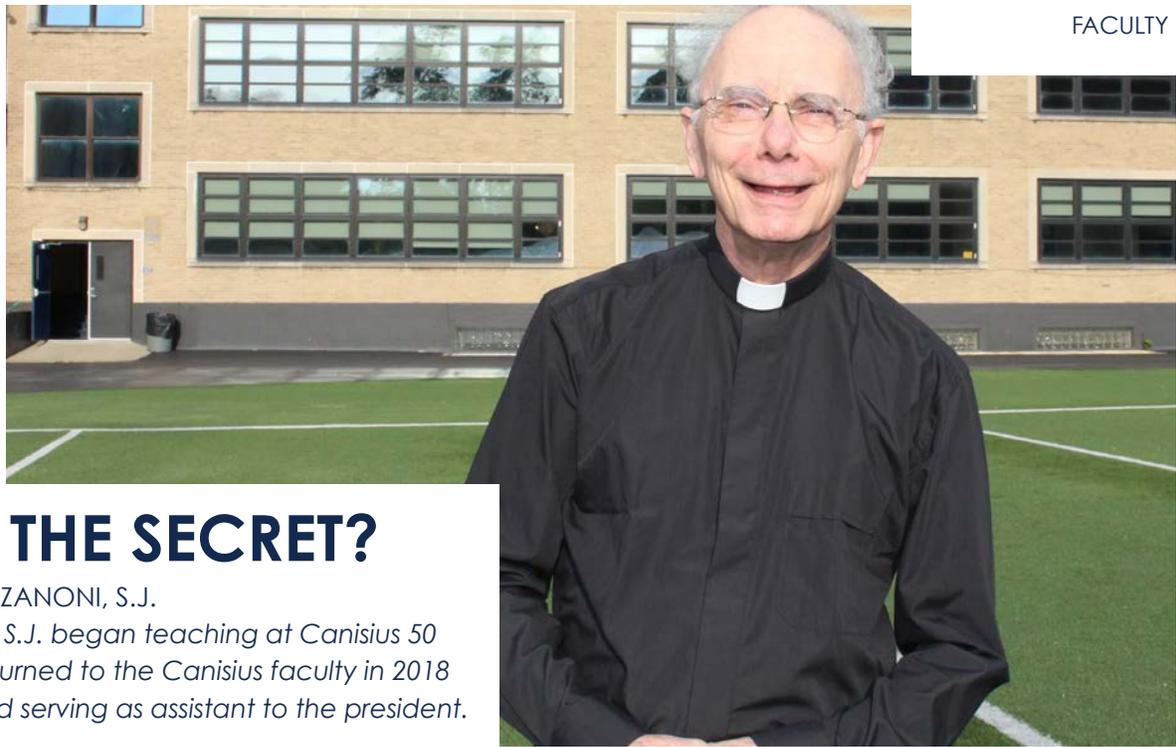
One of my first experiences with Canisius was back in the early 90s. **Fr. James Higgins, S.J. '72** would often celebrate Mass at St. George's Catholic Church in Ridgeway, Ontario where my husband, Peter, and I would regularly take our young sons to church in the summer. At the time, four generations of Schmitts had passed through the blue doors and Fr. Higgins wasn't going to let ten-year-old Daniel think for a minute that there was any high school on his radar besides Canisius. After Mass Fr. Higgins invited Dan to come to Canisius to meet the captain of the hockey team and shadow a few classes. The seed was planted, not only for **Dan '06** but also for me.

Growing up in a family that was very dedicated to volunteering at our parish, St. John the Baptist in Kenmore, and carrying that into my years as a parent at St. Gregory the Great parish, it was second nature for me to get involved when our sons enrolled at Canisius. The more I got involved, the clearer I could see the foundation that Canisius had built within the community. The opportunity to serve the less fortunate and molding "Men for Others" has been a longstanding commitment of the Jesuits in the Buffalo area for the last 150 years. I was honored to be asked to serve on the school's board of trustees in 2008.

"The more I got involved, the clearer I could see the foundation that Canisius had built within the community."

My first assignment on the board was to serve on the facilities committee midway through the construction of the Bernard J. Kennedy Field House and the Montante Academic Hall. I worked closely with other board members for two years until the project was complete. The facilities team also saw the completion of Koessler Field at the Stransky Athletic Complex, the purchase of 1193 Delaware and more recently the spectacular Center for the Arts at 1140 Delaware. Through my ten years of serving on the board not only have I seen the Canisius campus blossom into a source of academic, fine arts and athletic opportunity for our students but an asset the entire Western New York community can be proud of.

Time and time again I read stories about Canisius alumni who share that their years at Canisius molded them into "Men for Others." They express how their immersion trips to faraway lands or community projects in underserved areas within our own country gave them a greater understanding of the word "service." Through my work on the mission and identity committee I have witnessed the development and implementation of spiritual programming not only for the students at Canisius but also for the faculty, staff, coaches, administration, and fellow board members. Cura Personalis, care for the entire person, has been the goal of the Jesuits in the Buffalo area since 1870. How fortunate we are in Western New York that the Jesuits so many years ago opened a school and started what has become Canisius High School and Canisius College!



WHAT'S THE SECRET?

BY FR. RICHARD J. ZANONI, S.J.

Fr. Richard Zanoni, S.J. began teaching at Canisius 50 years ago, and returned to the Canisius faculty in 2018 teaching math and serving as assistant to the president.

In his book “The Art of Teaching,” a classic historical review of education in Western civilization, Gilbert Highet commented that the Jesuits over time were attacked by many enemies for diverse reasons, but not one of them ever accused the Jesuits of being incompetent teachers. Ever since the establishment in 1548 of their first school for lay students at Messina in Sicily, Jesuits have left their mark on education. And, by the way, Peter Canisius served on that first faculty at Messina.

“The Jesuit and lay staff taught me well; more so, they inspired me to find out who I am in all my complexity.”

Canisius High School celebrates its 150th anniversary, along with Canisius College from which it emerged, I think it fair to say that the school and the college continue to leave their mark on education here in Western New York. Founded by German Jesuits to assist a growing immigrant population, these two vibrant institutions have been joined in recent years by NativityMiguel Middle School, which aims to provide a solid elementary educational foundation for immigrant children of today and for children of families of slender means.

Why does education in the Jesuit tradition work? Why is it successful? The secret is simple, and it really is no secret. Jesuit schools deal with students as persons. As I was beginning my teaching ministry here 50 years ago, a veteran lay teacher of Latin and Math told me quite directly that he taught young men, not subjects. On every level, Jesuit education embraces each student where one is, and with the guidance of competent and dedicated

teachers and coaches and staff, helps each student to discover and develop the God-given talents and interests which each one possesses.

Jesuit schools like Canisius are not academic factories. Of course, Canisius values academic achievement, but not because our students might rank higher than others, but because outstanding success in academics results from determination not to remain satisfied until one has done the very best with what one has. Similarly in athletics, accumulating wins can never and should never be the goal. As a student becomes more confident of his own gifts and aware of his limitations and as he grows in years and maturity, he comes to realize that within lies a deep spiritual core, no matter what his faith tradition, and that core is calling him more and more to give of himself for the benefit of others. And so, at Canisius as in all Jesuit schools, a service component (immersion trips) integrated with a religious component (retreat opportunities) is consciously and deliberately included in the overall educational program. Over the years, the particulars have changed, but one need only see Canisius alumni in our city and elsewhere to realize that education in the Jesuit tradition bears rich fruit.

I graduated from a Jesuit high school in Brooklyn, NY. The Jesuit and lay staff taught me well; more so, they inspired me to find out who I am in all my complexity and to acknowledge that I am a person blessed and loved by a God who asks only this of me: to love God in return and to love my neighbor as myself. It is a simple formula, but when a person pursues it humbly and patiently, through all the twists and turns of life, one’s day-to-day living becomes joyful, filled with a profound peace. This is the noble goal which students in Jesuit schools pursue. That’s no secret. And isn’t this precisely what God wishes for each of us?



ONE YEAR TEACHING

BY SHAWN PEARCE '94

After leaving behind a 15-year career in financial markets, Shawn Pearce spent the 2018-2019 school year teaching Spanish to Canisius students.

Shawn Pearce enjoys a lively discussion with (left to right) **Brett Papke '22**, **Billy Elliott '22**, **Alex Schmidt '22**, **Marcos Santana '22**, **Jimmy Roberts '22**, and **Steven Kropelin '22**.

Have you thought about teaching? Teachers open minds, inspire, lead by example, share values, and maybe change a life forever. Teaching has been on my mind for many years, and Canisius is the only place I considered fulfilling that goal. Why Canisius? I loved my experience as a Canisius student, and I relive small parts of that experience as an active alumnus. These experiences drew me into looking to be more deeply involved in the Canisius community. Fate provided me with the opportunity to teach shortly after resigning from a 15-year career in financial markets. Experiencing the school again from a teacher's perspective showed me why Canisius is such a special place.

"I've found that patience is finite, caring is infinite, and energy is somewhere in the middle."

My one year was more than teaching and realizing a personal goal, it was really a life experience. Even if you've dedicated 40 years to a challenging career, you should still expect to hear "So... you want to be a teacher?" Naively I said yes and I'm happy to report my conversation with Ms. Tyrpak-Endres about the opportunity ended with "we'd love to have you!"

I quickly realized that teaching is not easy. Despite arriving home at 3:30pm, during the first month I would fall asleep after school while typing at my kitchen island. I had worked 11 or 12 hours a day for 15 years and simply explaining Spanish to kids burned all my energy and patience in six! I soon learned to manage these

reserves, not by giving less, but by working at a consistent pace. I like to describe teaching as "five live shows a day, five days a week, to a tough studio audience."

Teaching also teaches you. I've found that patience is finite, caring is infinite, and energy is somewhere in the middle. Teaching demands a lot of patience, and patience can be restored by a good night's sleep. Energy comes from pursuing a passion; your favorite hobby, sport, or dream career can fill your own energy reserves. Care and love come from themselves; the more you give, the more capacity you have to give. A wise friend and father of three told me not to be afraid of having two kids or five, that the love for the next one will be as strong as the first. Teachers truly care for their "kids" and derive great satisfaction from helping them with anything from verb conjugations to personal life issues.

In the classroom, I shared many life experiences with "my kids" and I was inspired by their curiosity and personal growth as the year progressed. I also developed a deeper understanding and appreciation of St. Ignatius Loyola's philosophy and why a Jesuit education is so different and so good. Five hundred years ago, Ignatius gave up his noble life and embraced an ascetic one to pray and think very deeply. His thoughts are a key part of our teacher training and spark great discussions about how to interact with students with a mindset of caring for them as whole persons. Teachers lead by example, believe in their students, and foster their growth. This underlying philosophy is at the heart of my latest Canisius experience and showed me how we nurture "Men and Women for Others."

"So... you want to be a teacher?"

MISSION CONTROL

Bill Weppner's Air Force career landed him with NASA during the Apollo program.



Bill Weppner frequently speaks with groups about the Apollo missions.

"From launching to landing, we learned as much as possible in the laboratory about orbiting in space," Bill says. "I ended up as part of the propulsion system team responsible for launching human payload, and started with mission control for Apollo 7, the first manned craft to orbit the earth."

Bill was also part of the mission control team for Apollo 13, which aborted a lunar landing when an oxygen tank exploded and nearly stranded the crew in space. The mission was dramatized in a 1995 film starring Tom Hanks, which Bill reports was very accurate in its depiction of the intensity felt in the mission control center. He was part of the team that received the Presidential Medal of Freedom for their role in returning the crew safely to earth.

"From launching to landing, we learned as much as possible in the laboratory about orbiting in space."

Bill eventually transferred to various Air Force posts including Andrews Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. and The Office of the Inspector General in the U.S. Department of Justice. He retired as a major in the Air Force in 1980 and has lived in Memphis for the past 30 years.

"My advice to today's Canisius students is to stay flexible. I started as an electrical engineer and went on to learn space travel," Bill concludes. "I would also repeat a well-known U.S. Air Force slogan used in recruitment efforts—'aim high.'"



From the 1953 *Arena*.

As the nation celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing this summer, **William Weppner '53** shared his memories of having a front row seat for mankind's greatest triumphs. A U.S. Air Force officer, Bill worked on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) flight control teams for Apollo missions 7 through 13, witnessing historic events in space travel.

"The Apollo 11 mission satisfied President John F. Kennedy's goal to land a man on the moon before the end of the decade and I was part of the complex technical operation that made it happen," Bill explains. "While that was exciting, my favorite mission, however, was Apollo 8, the first manned spacecraft to leave earth's orbit, circle the moon, and return. I was part of the propulsion system team and no one had ever flown to orbit the moon before."

One of two children in a North Buffalo family, Bill says his parents encouraged him to attend Canisius High School. During his freshman year, his father passed away suddenly and Bill found himself the man of the house. He worked a morning paper route and took on a job in the school cafeteria to help pay tuition. His only regret from his days as a Crusader was that he did not have more time for co-curricular activities due to work and family responsibilities.

After high school, Bill went to Canisius College and then transferred to the University of Detroit. He ultimately earned a degree in electrical engineering from University at Buffalo before being commissioned in the U.S. Air Force in 1959. As an officer, he began work on a master's in electrical engineering at the University of Oklahoma before being assigned to a research lab spun-off from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). By 1968, he was part of a cohort of Air Force officers assigned to the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston, now known as the Johnson Space Center.



A TRUE BLUE FRIEND

BY TUCKER MCCARTHY '03

For Tucker McCarthy, it is impossible to properly thank the classmate who saved his life.

Drew Thomann '03 (left) and **Tucker McCarthy '03** in June 2019.

To a young boy, it was Camelot. Castle-like stone walls and massive blue doors adorned with iron and religious iconography. Not far behind those imposing doors, however, hung composite photographs of past graduates—comfort that others had survived.

And so, in September 1999, I joined about 200 other blank slates, nearly all strangers, fresh from “Saint here” or “Blessed there” to try to carry on the tradition. For some of us, Canisius represented the promise of fulfilling a legacy. My grandfather ('27), my father ('64), and his brothers ('54 and '71), all earned a place in those class pictures. The same was true of my new classmate, **Andrew “Drew” Thomann '03**, whose father, Jack, graduated in 1968. Our fathers, however, would not be there to chaperone. We would need friends.

I met Drew early during our freshman year. He was a quarterback prospect whom I naturally assumed an egotist. When he approached me one afternoon, however, he did so without a trace of affectation. Like me, his eyes all but disappeared when

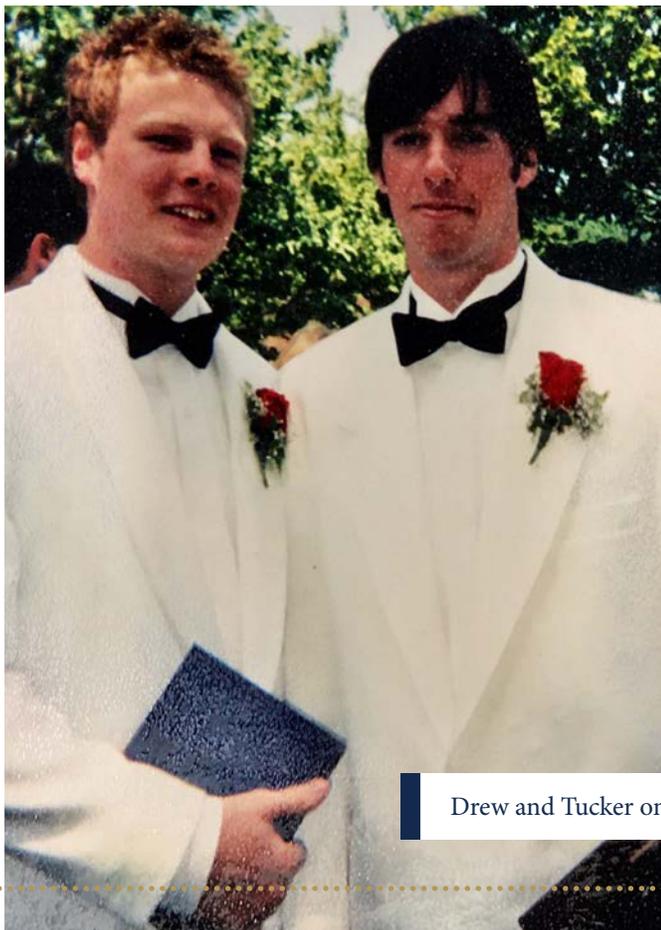
he smiled. Later that year, we played freshman basketball together and realized that we had shared the court as far back as third grade. Certainly, I had no idea as a nine-year-old that my opponent would become a close companion. That we would share in the Canisius experience—exams, sports, school dances. That I would be his groomsman. That our greatest bond would be forged nearly 25 years later.

While the Canisius tradition was almost an inherited trait, there was another destiny in my DNA. In early 2016, while living in London, I began to experience extreme fatigue and shortness of breath. Mindful of the pervasive kidney disease affecting my father and an unfortunate percentage of his relatives, I dismissed any self-diagnosis, attributing the symptoms instead to England’s lack of sunlight. It wasn’t until the following year, after nearly collapsing at a wedding, that I learned of Mucin-1 Kidney Disease (“MKD”), an extremely rare kidney condition identified in only about 200 families worldwide. Despite having witnessed my father’s tribulations, I was ignorant of what was ahead. I had to Google “dialysis” for a basic understanding.

Hemodialysis—cleansing the blood by filtering it through a machine—is the best and worst part of kidney disease. On the one hand, it keeps one alive, removing otherwise fatal toxins from the blood, and also begets contact with amazing nurses and technicians who work countless and often thankless hours for the relative health and comfort of their patients. On the other hand, however, it is time consuming and exhausting. Over 22 months, I spent 10.5 hours on dialysis each week. Though I continued to work full time as a lawyer, often while connected to a hemodialyzer, treatments left me drained, limiting my otherwise active routine and pausing my personal and professional ambitions.

While MKD is exceedingly rare, chronic kidney disease is the ninth leading cause of death in the U.S. Deemed so serious, Congress passed a bill in 1972 promising that the government would pay 100% of dialysis costs for those in need. In his exposé on dialysis, comedian John Oliver joked that, “Essentially, we have universal healthcare in this country for one organ in the body. It’s like your kidneys, and only your kidneys, are Canadian.”

For many people on dialysis, the hope is for a kidney transplant. Like approximately 93,000 others, I registered for the deceased donor transplant waitlist. Though the average wait time is three to five years, I expected to receive a kidney sooner given my age and otherwise general good health. The call never came.



Drew and Tucker on graduation night in 2003.

A living donor transplant, though encouraged by hospital transplantation units, is not something I seriously considered initially. My lifelong friend **Beau Barron '00** offered but, perhaps too hastily, I declined. Later, my sister, aware of my frustration, shared my story and a list of volunteers, headed by my friend Dan Greene, a St. Joe’s graduate, formed. I was overwhelmed.

“Short of dying for someone else, is there any greater sacrifice one person could make for another? Drew did it so easily.”

Ultimately, it was Drew whom the experts identified as the best match. I tried to dissuade him, but in the unassuming manner that had endeared me to Drew nearly 18 years earlier, he insisted. In the months before the surgery, I frequently reflected on the sacrifice Drew and others were willing to make for me. I thought about that familiar maxim “Men for Others” which I had heard so often but never truly appreciated. Now, its message pulsed. Short of dying for someone else, is there any greater sacrifice one person could make for another? Drew did it so easily.

On October 1, 2018, Drew gave me a kidney. To say he saved my life is no exaggeration. Upon full recovery, I will be able to recommence normal life, pursuing ambitions and enjoying free time. More significantly, however, is the likelihood that my life will be prolonged by this ultimate assist. There is a negative correlation between time on dialysis and life expectancy. Moreover, the statistics show that the life span of a living-donor kidney is markedly better than that of a deceased-donor kidney.

For more than half my life and well before our procedure, Drew has been a superlative friend. He was by my side when finding one’s way behind those Arthurian blue doors required friendship verging on brotherhood. Now, we are consanguineal, bound by blood and a sacrifice better exemplifying the school’s maxim than any I have encountered. Properly thanking someone who has made such a sacrifice is not possible. The best I can do is frequently remind others what one friend did for another, and to that end I’m establishing an annual award in Drew’s name to go to a Canisius student to honor the spirit of personal sacrifice.

Someday Drew’s sons likely will continue the family tradition of attending Canisius. What’s more certain, however, is that with a father like Andrew Thomann, they are sure to follow his example of unwavering friendship—an even higher tradition.



Cross, Knot, Stripes: Mural for Keenan Commons
Xavier High School, NYC,
acrylic on canvas, 31' 5" x 8' 8", 2018-19.

CROSS, KNOT, STRIPES

A Canisius alumnus is asked to create a piece of artwork for a Jesuit high school in New York City.

A new work of art, recently dedicated at Xavier High School in New York City, has strong ties to Canisius High School. The artist is **Fr. Michael Tunney, S.J. '76**, and his work is now displayed in Xavier's Keenan Commons – named for former Canisius High School and Xavier High School president Fr. Jim Keenan, S.J.

“The cross spanning the composition is the central trial and triumph for every Christian,” explains Fr. Tunney. “I used complementary colors to the stripes to create the strongest contrasts in the cross. The Celtic knot followed a phone call to Fr. Keenan. I asked him his favorite cross in all of western art history. In a New York second he responded, ‘Celtic cross!’. Reviewing Celtic crosses online, I saw the knot and was immediately drawn to the

trinitarian character of it. I knew that was the focal point I wanted.”

Fr. Tunney is the rector of the Fairfield Jesuit community and previously served as the director of the fine arts program at Canisius College. He credits his Canisius High School art teacher, Liz Lyons Friedman, for shaping and encouraging his interest in art.

“Her enthusiasm, dedication to her students, and her endless patience and good humor showed all of us how to be both creative and kind to one another,” Fr. Tunney recalls. “Long before Jesuits talked about our lay colleagues as central figures in our schools’ missions, Liz was in the lead at Canisius.”



Fr. Michael Tunney, S.J. at the artwork dedication in Keenan Commons in May.

GAMBIT'S SAPPHIRE GALA

The Canisius community celebrated 45 years of the school's successful dinner and auction on March 30 with the GAMBIT XLV Sapphire Gala. For a second year in a row, the event raised over half a million dollars, including \$129,000 for the **Fr. Ronald W. Sams, S.J. '46** AMDG Scholarship during the live auction. The night featured keynote speaker **Will Ezquerro '19** who will be attending The Citadel in the fall. Exemplifying what it means to be a "man for others," Will spoke of his plans for a career in nursing so he can help people who are ill. Thank you to all who supported this year's effort to help the school continue its mission for future generations of students.



Thank you to the GAMBIT XLV co-chair couples (left to right) **Matt '94** and Heather Vukelic, Pam and **Mike Smith '89**, and Susan and **Robert Basil '81**.



Will Ezquerro '19 received a standing ovation following his speech.



NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



This year's Canisius Lightweight 4+ became the first ever Canisius boat to win a triple crown of national titles with victories at the Scholastic Rowing Association of America Championships, the Canadian Scholastic National Championships, and the U.S. Rowing Youth National Championships. (pictured left; left to right) **Charles Korn '19**, **Zachary Porter '19**, coxswain **George Weckerle '19**, **Zachary Mecca '20**, and **Nathaniel Sass '19** won in decisive fashion at Youth Nationals, crossing the finish line nearly eight seconds ahead of the second place boat.

MORE SPRING 2019 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Canisius captured a seventh consecutive Monsignor Martin Supremacy Cup – awarded annually to the school with the most successful athletics program
- Five Scholar Athlete Winners – Jack Arnold '19 (baseball), John Collins '19 (tennis), Matt Jackson '19 (golf), Max Murray '19 (track & field), and Henry Popko '19 (lacrosse)
- Nineteen student-athletes from the class of 2019 made commitments to continue studying and competing at the college level

DOUBLES CHAMPIONS



The team of **Dave Miller '20** (wearing hat) and **Will Jones '21** won the All Catholic tennis doubles title this spring.



HONORING EXCELLENCE

Canisius will celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of alumni with the induction of new members into the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Honor and Athletic Hall of Fame this fall. **Save the date for the ceremony:**

**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 16, 2019**

TIME: TBA

**CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL
KENNEDY FIELD HOUSE**

Congratulations to the new inductees!



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HALL OF HONOR Induction Class of 2019

Dr. Mark Lema '67
Medicine

Michael Madden '67
Finance

Charles "Chip" Jones '74
Business/Community Service

Kevin Curran '75
Business/Marketing

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME Induction Class of 2019

Andrew Curtin '74
Football, Wrestling

John Hall '84
Football, Basketball, Baseball
(manager)

Keith Kostrzewski '95
Soccer, Football, Hockey

Jude Malican '77
Swimming

Smith Morris '82
Football, Track & Field

Joe Raccuia '90
Baseball, Basketball

Ron Raccuia '86
Baseball, Football, Bowling

Paul Riley '03
Cross Country, Track & Field

Dan Thrush '99
Wrestling

John Urschel '09
Football, Track & Field

Barnes Award:
Patrick Kwiatkowski '72
Bowling coach



ALUMNI WEEKEND 2019

Once a Crusader, Always a Crusader.



Members of the Class of '64 at the All Alumni Bash.

ALL ALUMNI BASH

Hundreds gathered on Tripi Field for the All Alumni Bash – the signature event of Alumni Weekend. Graduates from the classes of 1949 through 2019 attended this year's Bash, sharing memories and lots of laughs.



(left to right) **Todd Michalak '99**, **Jim Grucella '67**, **Peter Grucella '99**, **Justin Ranallo '09**, **Joe Cutolo '99**, and **Dan Thrush '99** at the All Alumni Bash.



(Left to right) **Jim Moesch '59** and **Dave Vastola '59** full of optimism before a round of golf.

REV. JOHN G. STURM, S.J. '35 ALUMNI GOLF CLASSIC

Alumni played The Links at Ivy Ridge in two shotgun starts.



Members of classes of 2001 and 2008 enjoying the course.

GOLDEN JUBILEE

The Class of '69 celebrated 50 years since graduating from Canisius.

The Class of '69 gathered for a toast on Tripi Field.

JOIN US FOR THE NEXT ALUMNI WEEKEND JUNE 19-20, 2020!

UPCOMING EVENT

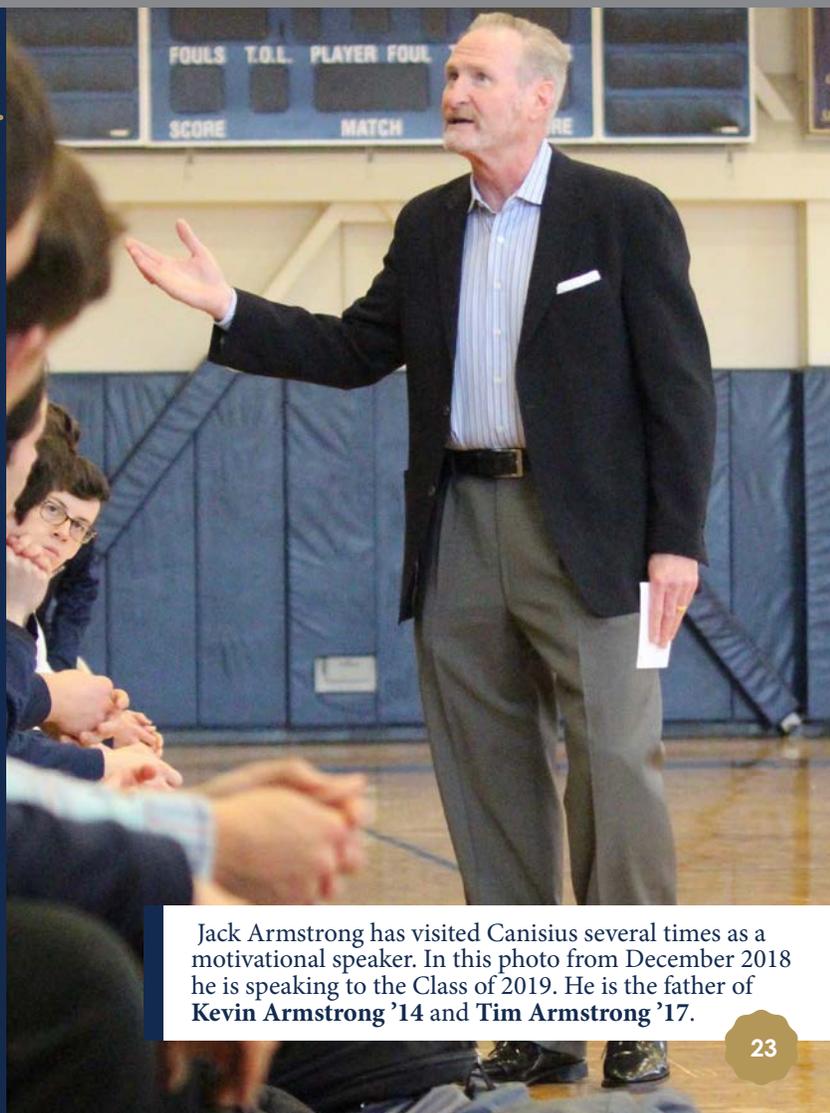
FR. STURM LEGACY FUND LUNCHEON

Voice of the NBA champion Toronto Raptors Jack Armstrong will be the featured speaker at this year's Fr. Sturm Legacy Fund Luncheon. Make plans to be there on **Monday, September 16, 2019** at the KeyBank Center in Buffalo. The event benefits the Fr. Sturm Legacy Fund which supports tuition assistance and athletic programs at Canisius.

More information at
CANISIUSHIGH.ORG/STURM.

Projects the Sturm Legacy Fund has supported include:

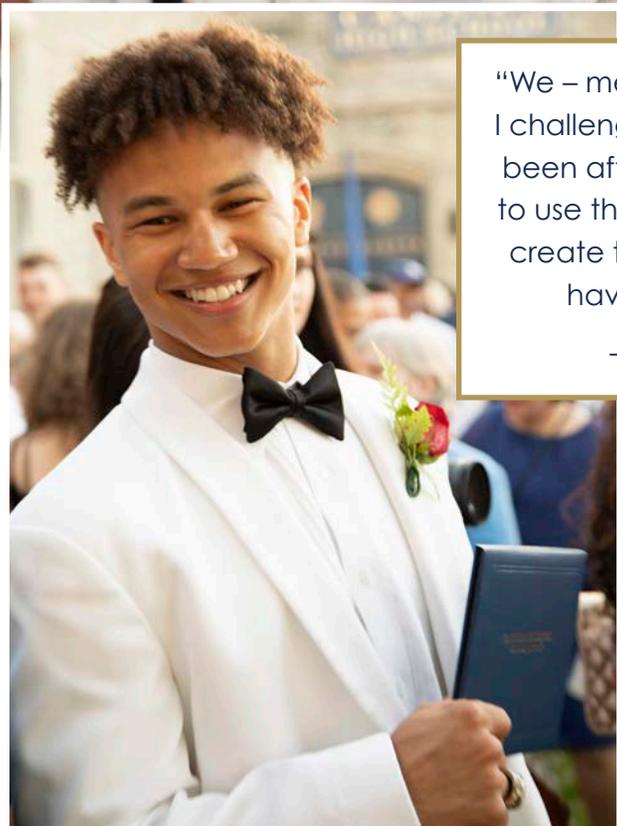
- Hydration stations used at team practices and summer camps
- Pool cleaning equipment
- Uniforms for several teams
- Athletic Hall of Fame display
- Signage at the Stransky Athletic Complex



Jack Armstrong has visited Canisius several times as a motivational speaker. In this photo from December 2018 he is speaking to the Class of 2019. He is the father of Kevin Armstrong '14 and Tim Armstrong '17.



GO FORTH...



"We – men of Canisius – are called to be the best of the best. I challenge us to use these wonderful opportunities that have been afforded to us by the sacrifice of others. I challenge us to use these gifts not only to make our lives better, but also to create the beloved community where all of God's children have equal opportunity for peace and prosperity."
– **Joel Nicholas '19**, in his graduation speech.

On May 23, 2019, Mr. Canisius **Joel Nicholas '19** addressed classmates, families, and faculty gathered in the auditorium for graduation. He spoke of the many problems facing the world today, and issued a challenge to be part of the solution.



Mark Narby '19 and **Jack Augustine '19**



THE NEXT STEP ...

The class of 2019 earned millions of dollars in college scholarships and grant offers. These young men will be continuing their education at some of the top institutions of higher learning.

Number attending...

Jesuit colleges/universities	54
Catholic colleges/universities (non Jesuit)	19
SUNY schools	45

Number attending these selected colleges/universities...

Boston College	5	Georgetown	2
Cornell	4	Colby	1
RIT	3	Columbia	1
Brown	2	Notre Dame	1
Colgate	2	US Air Force Academy	1
Fordham	2	Williams College	1

See the full list of where the Class of 2019 is headed next at canisiushigh.org/college2019. Plus, see the profiles of some of our new graduates and their college plans on the pages ahead.



ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

Share your news. Email CHStoday@canisiushigh.org

Donald Pinkel, MD '44 received a SUNY Honorary Doctorate in Science in absentia at the University at Buffalo Jacobs School's commencement on May 3, 2019. Donald is world-renowned for developing the first curative drug treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)—the most common type of cancer in children and a disease once considered virtually untreatable. He was honored in 1972 with the Lasker Award, often referred to as "America's Nobel Prize." He also helped develop the public health initiative that led to the formation of a supplemental food program for women and children that was adopted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Now known as WIC, this program is widely praised as one of the nation's most successful and cost-effective nutrition interventions.



Michael Avery '51 (photo left with his wife Catherine) has been retired since 2008 and volunteers for various Cornell University activities. He is president and reunion chair for his Cornell class of 1955, a member of the Cornell Council, VP and board member for the Cornell Association of Class

Officers, and chair of a committee for the Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network.

Bob Dietrich '52, while working at Bell Aerospace, helped develop the essential accelerometer which guides satellites to this day.

Jim Dolan '52 is enjoying bowling and ended his recent bowling season in first place in his Friday seniors league and second place in his Monday league.

Chuck Henry '52 is living in Florida where he stays busy volunteering at a hospital, playing golf and working out.

Joe Kelly '52 is retired and living in North Carolina after a career that began at Republic Steel in Buffalo, and then took him to Cleveland where he managed a data center.

Dick Meyers '52 writes poems and read a few of them to his classmates at a recent lunch gathering at Chef's.

Fr. Fran Hezel, S.J. '56 is celebrating 50 years as a Jesuit priest. He is currently serving at Santa Barbara Catholic Church in Guam.

Paul Prozeller '56 and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a trip to Europe in July 2019. The highlight was a three-week river cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest.

John O'Connor '59 retired from his positions as special agent, IRS-Criminal Investigation, and financial investigative consultant, U.S. Attorney's Office and DEA in Atlanta.



David Raab '60 (photo left) is a four-time North Carolina state bocce champion.

William Love '61 retired in 2013 after 45 years in the private practice of law as a plaintiff's personal injury lawyer. He and his wife, Mickie, will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary in September with their four children and three grandchildren.



Henry Dewey '62 (on the left in photo) has completed kayaking the entire Cayuga-Seneca Canal and about half of the Champlain Canal. He and his kayak group are now spending about a week each summer kayaking in the 1000 Islands.

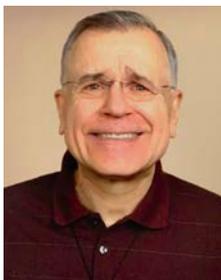
Captain Frank Swientek, USN, Retired '62 recently completed his two-year term as the chapter president of the United States Naval Academy Alumni Association for Oregon and Southwest Washington State. He continues to volunteer at the Portland VA hospital and with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Donald Colquhoun '63 received the Boy Scouts of America Trail Council Distinguished Service award from the Iroquois Trail Council. Donald was in the U.S. Army Reserve for 26 years and rose from the rank of private to full colonel. He also served as executive director for the Arc of Orleans, guiding a staff of hundreds of service providers offering advocacy, support and a range of services to more than 500 people with disabilities. He retired from that position in 2012.



Michael Curley '65 has published a story titled Bridgette's Guardians about an oceanographer and Naval reserve officer who is appalled to learn that the men and women who volunteer to serve as "Doctors Without Borders" have no protection at all when they work in developing countries, no matter how dangerous. She vows to organize a team to protect them.

Paul E. Inderbitzen, MT (ASCP) '67 recently retired after 46 years in the laboratory at Lowell General Hospital in Lowell, MA. After working a year at Millard Fillmore Hospital, Gates Circle, he moved to New Hampshire in 1973 and continued his career as a medical technologist at Lowell. He was named supervisor of the Blood Bank in 1997 and served in that capacity for 30 years, stepping down in 2007 to return to patient laboratory work. Paul serves as the town and school district moderator for the town of Hudson, NH, an elected position with the duties of running town meetings, and all town, state, and federal elections.



Robert Koza '67 (photo left) is in his 39th year as a Scout Leader in Troop 107. He is on the District Catholic Committee as a religious emblems coordinator, and serves at St. John Kanty and St. Michael parishes as a eucharistic minister, lector, choir member and funeral server. He recently finished eight years as a communion minister at the Veterans Hospital in Buffalo. Bob received The

Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award for service to all people regardless of race or faith.

Luke Lester '67 is working in the Veterans Administration in Atlanta as a volunteer instructor for homeless veterans, teaching communication and computer skills with a goal of helping veterans find housing and employment.

Timothy Scanlon '67 retired from the healthcare industry eight years ago. He currently lives in Venice, FL with his wife, Mary Beth.

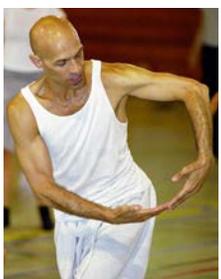
Sam Iraci '68 and his family established the **Andrew D. Iraci '99** Memorial Scholarship Endowed Fund at Canisius.



John Buscaglia '69 (photo left) sold his dental practice in 2017 after 37 years. He now works part time for WNY Dental Group at the Getzville office. He is also teaching one day a week at the University at Buffalo, School of Dental Medicine.

Tom Fontana '69 is the showrunner for the Showtime television series "City on the Hill". It is set in Boston in the early

1990s, and actors Ben Affleck and Matt Damon are among the executive producers. It premiered on Showtime in June and runs through August.



Bruce Taylor '69 (photo left) teaches at the Paris Opera School, the IFPRO School, and throughout Europe while directing and choreographing for his own company of dance, Choreonyx. "My path started with the grand professor, Fr. Naumann...to whom I owe everything for installing that flame to continue, no matter how difficult it becomes," writes Bruce. "Thank you for everything Canisius High School, my 'haven'

which helped me to face the future with 'eyes wide open!'"



Dennis McCleary '70 gets together with a group of his classmates every year. The photo here was taken at a Bills vs. Dolphins game last year and features left to right in the front row **Tom Urban**

'70, Dennis McCleary '70, Rob Schuster '70, Phil Perna '70, Jack Scanlon '70, Mark Giangreco '70, and Jeff Weiss '70. The group is headed to Nashville for a Bills game this October.

Dennis Dracup '71 recently retired after a long career in executive management. Most recently he served as CEO and board member for a number of private companies as well as operating partner for a large private equity firm. Dennis and his wife Christine (Mt. Mercy '72) split their time between Chicago and Scottsdale, AZ and travel frequently to visit their four children and 11 grandchildren.

Michael Makey '71 recently retired from his position as general manager of finance with National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. following a 38-year career at the company.



Michael Murray '72 (photo left) retired from Ernst & Young as office managing partner and now serves on the boards of Merchants Insurance Group, Chapin Manufacturing Co., Reid Petroleum, and the Catholic Health System. He is also a member of the Dean's Advisory Council for the University at Buffalo School of Management.

Gerald (Jerry) Lauria '73 practiced pediatrics for 33 years in Orchard Park at Western New York Pediatrics. He is now semi-retired and practices part time at Jericho Road Community Health Center on Buffalo's west side. He also leads a yearly medical mission team to El Salvador and recently participated with a medical mission team in Sierra Leone in West Africa.

Joe Lucenti '73 retired after 41 years in education – 19 at Canisius High School and 22 as principal of Akron High School. He will be teaching a graduate course in education at Canisius College in the fall, and hopes to write more music, smell the flowers of May and the leaves of October. "I am blessed to retire having served over 5,200 young men and women in the Jesuit tradition," says Joe. "Thank you Canisius for a foundation built on 'Men for Others.' To my former colleagues and students at Canisius, thank you for enriching my life."

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:
Canisius High School
 Office of Communications
 1180 Delaware Avenue
 Buffalo, NY 14209



Hon. Mark Saltarelli '73 (photo left) was elected secretary/treasurer of the New York State City Court Judges Association.

Randall Kay '74 had a Steinway piano dedicated in his memory to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Independence of Poland. Randall was a lawyer and Polish historian who was very interested in the history of 20th century Poland and greatly admired Frederic Chopin's music. Randall passed away in 2017. The piano is on display in the Polish Embassy in Washington, D.C.



Jack Rogowski '74 connected with his classmates at a Class of '74 reunion dinner at Shea's Seneca in June. He shared the group photo to the left.

Robert Moore '76 was recognized by the School Administrators Association of New York State as Middle School Principal of the Year for Region 12. He is the principal at Clarence Middle School and is completing his 35th year in education.

Michelangelo Infurnari '77 is working and living in London, UK with his wife Beverly. Their two adult daughters have relocated to London as well. Mike is the director of fundraising and engagement for St. Joseph's Hospice in East London, responsible for the fundraising and community engagement functions of the charity. He and his wife reside in the Chiswick area of West London.

Fr. James Van Dyke, S.J. '77 served as the featured speaker at the Spring Loyola Club Luncheon in April at the University Club in Washington, D.C. The Loyola Club draws together those with a common bond of Jesuit education and Ignatian Spirituality.



Mike Bradley '80 (photo left) received the Outstanding Accountant in Western New York Award at Canisius College's annual accounting banquet. Mike is the CFO and senior vice president for NOCO. The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of WNY also honored Mike with the 2019 Service to Mankind Award.



Chris Grupp '81 is enjoying the beautiful Pacific Northwest in Seattle, WA and working as a senior program manager at Westlake Software, Inc. Westlake is a supplier to Microsoft Inc. for field labor automation tools. He and his wife Loretta Condino-Grupp, PhD, a manager in the Teachers College faculty at Western Governors University, will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary in October this year. Chris enjoys playing "beer league" hockey in an adult league (photo left) and he's looking forward to the NHL expansion team that's coming to the area in 2021. He is part of the Grupp family of alumni that includes his father **John '35**, uncle **Joe '37**, and his brother **John '66**.



Joe Koessler '81 was selected by Japanese Emperor Akihito to receive the Order of the Rising Sun, one of Japan's highest civilian awards. The honor is in recognition of Joe's 16 years of service as Japan's honorary consul-general in Buffalo. He received the award at a reception at the Buffalo Club in May 2019. Pictured left to right: Joe's children **Paul '18**, Laura, and Annie, Joe's wife Kyoko, Joe, his mother Ellen, and Ambassador Kanji Yamanouchi.



Stephen Zenger '83 (photo left) is honored to be named to the board of trustees of Daemen College. Steve is president and CEO of Zenger Group which has been a leader in Western New York's printing industry for more than 30 years.

William Malley '84 became managing partner of the law firm Perkins Coie based in Washington, DC on July 1, 2019. Bill joined Perkins Coie in 2008 as a partner in the firm's energy, environment and resources practice, where he advised public- and private-sector clients on navigating the environmental review process for major infrastructure projects. Since 2010, he served as managing partner of the firm's Washington, D.C., office which has 140 lawyers across several practices, including corporate, litigation, intellectual property, environment and natural resources, and political law.



Tim Tryjankowski '84 (photo left) was elected chair of the University at Buffalo Professional Staff Senate for the 2019-2021 term. He will represent UB's 2,600 professionals on matters of shared governance as they refer to UB and the SUNY system. Along with his chairmanship, Tim was named director of UB's Honors College for research and co-curricular activities. Tim is in his 25th year at UB and was awarded the Professional Staff Senate Service Award at a spring ceremony.



Dr. David A. Martin, Ed.D. '85 (photo left) recently graduated from George Washington University where he earned a Doctorate of Education, Executive Leadership Program, Graduate School of Higher Education. He is now an assistant professor of National Security Studies for the Department of Defense.



David Bauer '87 (photo left) became the president and chief executive officer of National Fuel Gas Company on July 1, 2019. He has been a member of National Fuel's executive team since 2004 and has been responsible for carrying out the company's financial strategy. As president of National Fuel Gas Supply Corporation since 2016, David oversaw the company's pipeline and storage operations and key interstate infrastructure modernization and expansion projects.

Kevin Fisher '87 wrote an article about high school hockey from 1909 to 1911 which appeared in the spring 2019 issue of Western New York Heritage magazine. He has been researching Buffalo's early hockey history which can be traced to 1896.



Jonathan Clark '88 (photo left) retired from service as a U.S. Federal Agent in 2013. He served in Afghanistan in 2003 and Iraq in 2005 with the U.S. Marines. He has three children and is currently living in Lebanon, PA.

Ben Batory '89 has been working in finance for approximately 20 years following a brief basketball career overseas. Life has taken him to Massachusetts for college, Costa Rica, Ireland, Malta, Mauritius, and Switzerland for basketball, and New York City, Miami, and San Francisco for work. He is living on the west coast with wife, Brielle, two daughters, and a dog. He says the things he misses about Western New York are family, great friends, Canisius, and Mighty Taco. "I can honestly say I have drawn on my CHS education and experience many, many times and I am thankful for it!" says Ben.



Jeremy Burke '90 (photo left) has taken over brewing operations for Steel City Coffee House & Brewery in Phoenixville, PA. The brewery will be expanding to a new location and increasing brewing capacity. Jeremy is also preparing to publish his

first book. "It will be about my experiences as a child being bullied and why I think the system failed me and how to fix the problems," says Jeremy. This will be the first of three books in a series about leadership and accountability. He is also serving as a leadership and personal development coach and mentor. Jeremy says to look for him on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Ken Fick '93 is happily living in Annapolis, MD with his wife, Madonna, and two daughters, Rebecca (13) and Isabelle (11). He is the director of strategy and transformation at MorganFranklin Consulting.

Michael Sullivan '93 served as the delegate for Canisius High School at the Inauguration of the Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J. as the 27th president of the University of Scranton on September 21, 2018. **Thomas MacKinnon '93** serves as the vice president for university advancement at the University of Scranton and is a member of Fr. Pilarz's cabinet. **Fr. James Van Dyke, S.J. '77** was the delegate for Georgetown Preparatory School where he currently serves as the school's president.

Peter Savage '95 was appointed by Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown to the position of Buffalo City Court Judge. Prior to his appointment, Peter served as a county legislator since 2014, was named the chairman of the legislature in 2018, and he has been an attorney since 2004.

Tim Bevilacqua '98, his wife Betsy, and their children Andrew and Gabrielle have left California after eight years there and moved to a home they bought in Larchmont, NY in Westchester County.

Patrick Haumesser '99 was promoted to assistant director of athletics for business management at MIT.

Bryan Stewart '00 was named the director of pro scouting for the Arizona Coyotes NHL hockey team. The upcoming season will be his third with the Coyotes and 14th as an NHL scout. He spent three seasons with the Toronto Maple Leafs, six with the Columbus Blue Jackets, and two with the Buffalo Sabres. Bryan lives in Columbus, OH with his wife of 16 years, Jessica, daughter Lacey (5), and son Dominik (2).

Chris Handley '01 moved back to Buffalo two years ago and will be taking over as executive artistic director at the Alleyway Theatre in May 2020.

Michael J. McGravey '01 will be an assistant professor of religious studies at Our Lady of Elms College, Chicopee, MA starting in September 2019.



Peter Rizzo '01 (photo left) was promoted to assistant vice president at Geico and has relocated back to Buffalo. Pete had served as a Geico sales/service director since 2015, managing a regional office in Iowa where he oversaw hiring, facilities, and the expansion of the office. Prior to that assignment, Pete was a service manager with the company.



Brandon Littles '02 (photo left) recently joined INSHUR, Inc. an InsurTech company that specializes in providing commercial auto insurance for Taxi & Limousine Commission vehicles in New York City and London, UK. As the director of

US digital claims, he will create and oversee the development of the claims department. Brandon enjoys his work and the excitement of city living.



In recognition of **Canisius' 150th anniversary**, we are working with Publishing Concepts, LP on a special sesquicentennial alumni directory. You may be contacted by the firm as we update alumni contact and demographic information. Participation is voluntary. Further information will be forthcoming from our office of alumni relations.

Thank you for your support!

Michael Tyrpak '02 of Tyrpak Wealth Strategies achieved membership in the prestigious MDRT (Million Dollar Round Table) organization – the premier association for financial professionals. Membership provides opportunities to share innovative ideas and best practices with other leading financial professional members. This is the third year that Mike Tyrpak achieved MDRT membership and it places him among the top professionals in the global life insurance and financial services industry.



Chase Bahne '03 is celebrating a new home, his daughter Ember's graduation from preschool (photo left), and his eleventh year at National Fuel.

Luke Handley '04 recently moved to Alexandria, VA with his wife, Katie, and daughters, Birdie (5) and Maisie (3). He accepted a new job as a policy advisor in the Department of Defense's Counternarcotics and Global Threats Office after working for the U.S. Army in Charlottesville, VA since 2008.

Vincent Miranda '04 was promoted to partner at the law firm Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP. Vincent focuses much of his practice on general business and commercial litigation.

Steven Kos '05 joined Magavern Magavern Grimm LLP as an associate attorney. Steven is practicing with the firm's health law and civil litigation groups. He received his Juris Doctor degree from Quinnipiac University.

Maurice "Chipp" Naylor '05 wrote a book about his experiences as a combat advisor with the U.S. Marine Corps in Afghanistan. The book is titled *The New Ministry of Truth: Combat Advisors in Afghanistan and America's Great Betrayal*.



Nicholas A. Romano, Esq. '06 (photo left) was selected by Buffalo Business First and Buffalo Law Journal as a "Rising Star" for the 2019 Legal Elite of Western New York. Awardees are nominated by their peers and each awardee must be a partner, of counsel, or special counsel at a law firm in Western New York for

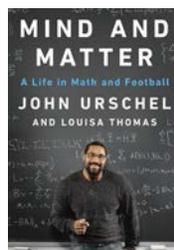
at least five years. Nicholas is an attorney at Connors, LLP in Buffalo. The full list of honorees, including a profile of Nicholas, will be published in the September 2019 Buffalo Business First and Buffalo Law Journal.

Matt Gritzmacher '08 finished 16th overall and atop the 'B' division among 742 competitors at the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament, the country's largest such tournament. Matt credits Fr. Joseph Lux, S.J. for fostering his love of crosswords during his freshman and sophomore years at Canisius.

Spencer Farrell '08 joined Lorraine Capital as director of business development. He works with high value stakeholder relationships to manage direct deal sourcing for Lorraine. Spencer also serves on the Canisius High School alumni board of governors.

Nicholas Sperrazza '08 is in the final year of his part-time MBA at Canisius College. He recently started a job at M&T Bank that he hopes will lead to a fruitful career in banking. As a one-year letter winner in soccer at CHS, Nicholas has stayed attached to his athletic roots competing with the Fenians Gaelic Football Team and advocating for the growth of the sport in WNY. He is a regular contributor for Gaelic football news, and other sporting news, to Buffalo Rising. "Stay tuned!" Nick says.

Bob Finan '09, co-founder and distiller at Tommyrotter Distillery in Buffalo, celebrated a victory at the Ultimate Spirits Challenge. The distillery's Cask Strength Bourbon-Barrel Gin won the Chairman's Trophy – an award bestowed upon the highest scoring entry in each category. Tommyrotter competed with more than 100 distilleries from around the world in the gin category.



John Urschel '09 wrote a book titled *Mind and Matter* which details his simultaneous journey in mathematics and football. He went from not knowing what he wanted to be in life while at Canisius, to becoming an NFL offensive lineman and earning his PhD in mathematics at MIT. It is published by Penguin Random House.

David Karambizi '10 has accepted an offer to join the Pathobiology, Ph.D. program at Brown University. After he completes his Ph.D., David plans to do his residency. He finished medical school at Brown last year.

Ken Liszewski '10 is back at Canisius. He started his new role as director of annual giving for the high school in July 2019. He previously was a development associate for the Olmsted Center for Sight.



Anthony Tomasello '12 (photo left) has turned passion for wine into a career. After spending a semester abroad in Strasbourg, France he fell in love with the wine and food culture. Anthony passed his Level 1 Sommelier exam, offered by the Court of Master Sommeliers, and accepted a position at Amherst Street Wine and Liquor in Buffalo as a full-time wine specialist. He teaches free educational customer wine seminars at the store and looks forward to sharing his knowledge and passion with customers at all levels of wine experience. Stop in to see him any time.

Dan Celani '13 won a primary for a Hamburg Town Board seat and will be on the ballot for the general election in November.

Anthony Sambrotto '13 was promoted to sports editor of the Bradford Era, a daily newspaper in McKean County, PA, in February 2019.

Qadree Ollison '14 was selected by the Atlanta Falcons in the fifth round of the National Football League Draft in April 2019. He was an All-ACC running back for the University of Pittsburgh where he earned a degree in communication.

Dalton Weir '14 is living in Edinburgh, Scotland and working as a data analysis and social media specialist for Historic Environment Scotland (HES). HES runs most of the historic sites in Scotland. "Come visit!" says Dalton.

Andy Helwig '15 has joined the Buffalo Bisons baseball broadcast team as the pregame and postgame host.

Nick Iacono '15 graduated Cum Laude from Duquesne University in May of this year earning his degree in marketing and sports marketing with a minor in management. He plans to attend



law school in the fall. Nick played for the Duquesne lacrosse team (photo left, #22), serving as team president during his senior year. He developed a crowdfunding campaign for the team which exceeded its fundraising goals.

Zackary Krieger '15 graduated this spring from the U.S. Air Force Academy with a Bachelor of Science and was commissioned as a second lieutenant.

Ken Ngoopos '15 has joined M&T Bank as part of its management development program in the retail department.

MacCaelin Sedita '15 graduated from Canisius College Magnum Cum Laude with a degree in English and political science. He is going to the University at Buffalo School of Law in the fall of 2019.



Anthony Taboni '15 (photo left) received the SUNY Chancellor Award for Student Excellence. It is the highest honor awarded by SUNY to a graduating student.

Patrick Burke '17 will be at Accademia Dell'Arte in Arezzo, Tuscany in the fall to study physical theatre and the Italian acting style Commedia for the whole semester.

Roscoe Garner '17 received a research grant through Fordham University to work on a summer research project involving identity formation and civic engagement.



Ryan O'Donnell '17, Nicholas Calabrese '17 and Matt Taboni '17 (pictured left to right) were honored with Grace W. Capen Awards from the University at Buffalo Women's Club because they each maintained an average of 3.95 or higher after three semesters at the University at Buffalo.



Matt Taboni '17 (back row, third from left) spent his spring break working with REACH in Roanoke, VA with nine other students and two advisors from the University at Buffalo. Matt organized the alternative spring break which followed a Canisius-style format of working during the day on revitalizing houses and reflecting with fellow students at night.

Jack Wiles '17 made the roster for the USA Rugby Men's Under 20 team which played Canada in a two match qualification series in June on Vancouver Island.

IN MEMORIAM

We remember alumni of whose passing we've learned since April 2019.

Roger J. Goergen '43

J. Roger Hogenkamp '47

Leo M. Lynett '47

James E. Denny '50

Charles DiVencenzo '50 (Hon.)

Robert G. Arns '51

Kevin J. Gorman '52

Richard H. Meyers '52

Charles P. Cavaretta, MD '53

William R. Sheridan '53

G. Murray Mintz '57

Vincent Zuccaro '59

Kenneth C. Spisiak '62

Theodore "Ted" R. Hariaczyi '64

Darryl J. Patterson '66

WEDDINGS



Matt Gritzmacher '08 (photo left) married Emily Penick on June 29 at St. Thomas Apostle Parish in Washington, DC, where they met in late 2017 as members of the choir. The happy couple will be moving to North Carolina in July as Major Penick continues her career in the U.S. Army Medical Corps at Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg.

BIRTHS

Joseph Beecher '99 (photo right) and his wife Amanda celebrated the birth of Joseph Thomas Beecher, Jr. on May 14, 2019.



Kyle Hejmowski '99 and his wife Artemisia Apostolopoulou welcomed their second child Paul Michael Hejmowski (photo right) on June 6, 2019. The baby weighed 9 lbs., 2 oz. The family lives in Pittsburgh, PA.



Andy Sfeir '00 and his husband Cliff Davidson welcomed their daughter Sarah Helen Sfeir Davidson (photo right) into the world in March 2019.



Brandon Maddigan '02 and his wife Denyea welcomed their second daughter in January 2019 (photo right). They live in Jamesville, New York where Brandon is a member of the select Special Operations Response Team (SORT) of the New York State Police. He served in the US Army in both Iraq and Afghanistan and completed his military career as a Captain.



Matthew Kwiatkowski '09 and his wife Jessica celebrated the birth of their first child, Jacob Paul Kwiatkowski, on Feb. 26, 2019 (photo right).

