

SUMMER 2010

THE LINK FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

WAGNER



Mystery Man

*The Secret Identity
of Robert Musella*

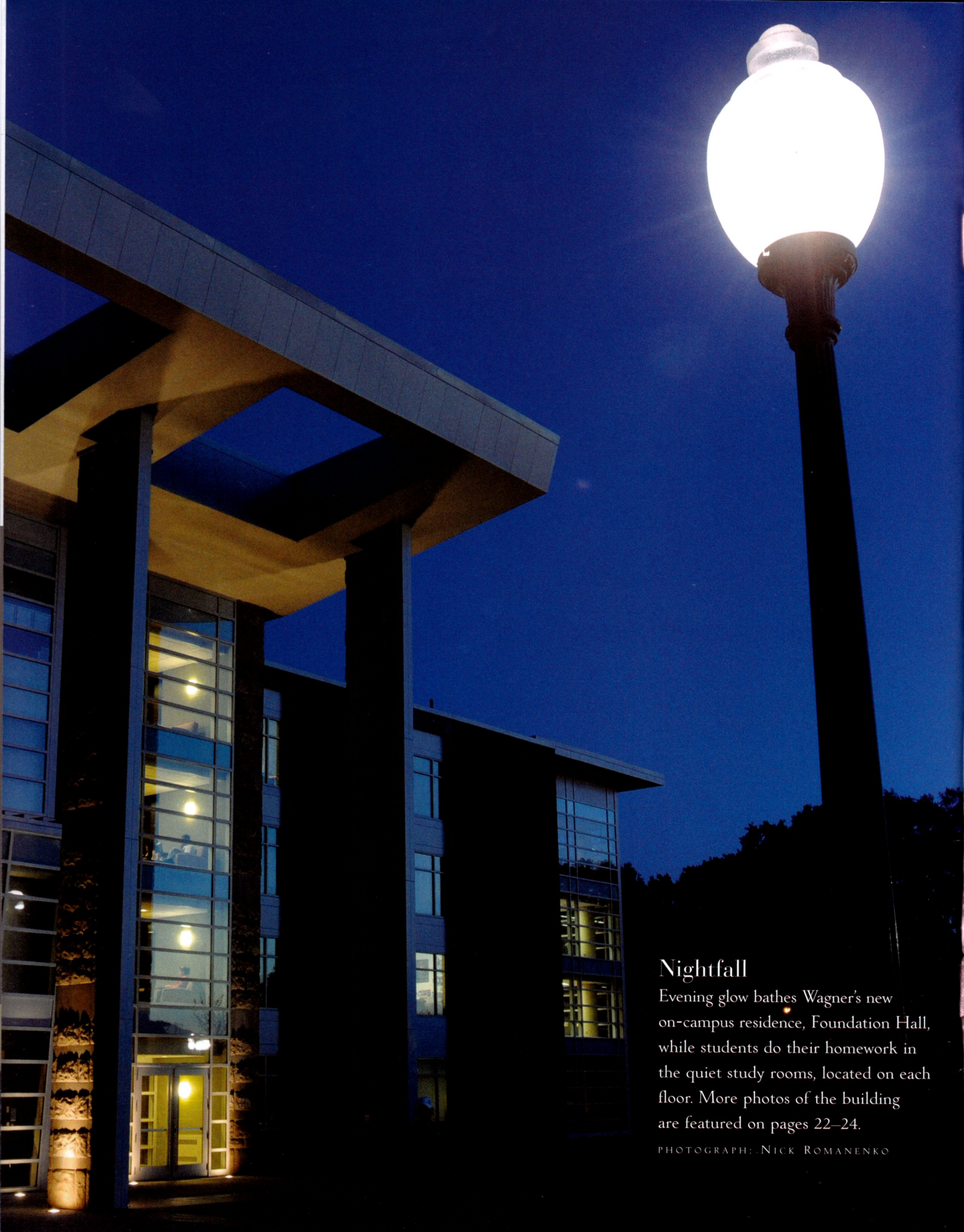
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PLUS

CONVERSATIONS
THAT COUNT

YEAR 3 OF THE
WAGNER PLAN



Nightfall

Evening glow bathes Wagner's new on-campus residence, Foundation Hall, while students do their homework in the quiet study rooms, located on each floor. More photos of the building are featured on pages 22–24.

PHOTOGRAPH: NICK ROMANENKO

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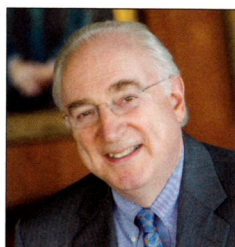
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From the President

Commencement Inspires Pride



“It’s our goal
that all Wagner graduates
become civic-minded
professionals.”

In late May, Wagner celebrated the annual commencement ceremonies for our new graduates. It is always moving and gratifying for me to see just how much our students have accomplished, and to hear about the impressive things they will do after leaving Grymes Hill. Let me offer just a glimpse of what I mean.

A significant number of 2010 graduates are headed to medical school, veterinary school, law school, and doctoral programs. They include Sal Valenti of Staten Island, who will attend the New York Medical College; Kathryn Chepiga of Brooklyn, who is pursuing a doctorate at Emory University; Kate Eshelman of Olathe, Kansas, who begins a Ph.D. program in chemistry at the University of Kansas; and Anthony Santoro of Maspeth, New York, a double major in French and psychology at Wagner, who will continue his studies in psychology in a doctoral program at Columbia University.

Other members of this distinguished class will begin working with some impressive organizations. English major Holly Walker of Huntington Beach, California, is planning on a stint in the Peace Corps. Jorel Joseph of Fairfax Station, Virginia, and Olatunde Ogunlana of Staten Island, who both majored in accounting, have secured positions with

PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Ben Serbiak of Lumberville, Pennsylvania, a biology major, will be working at Johnson & Johnson and pursuing a master’s in genetics at New York University, while William Rassman of Rochester,

New York, will begin a career with Merrill Lynch in Los Angeles.

Members of the class of 2010 also excelled in service. I could point to many examples, but I choose one here. Like all theater students, Graham Keen of Nashville, Tennessee, is always pushing himself to reach his creative potential. And, he always pushed himself to give extra effort by volunteering at a Brooklyn elementary school, in Staten Island nursing homes, and on behalf of the student body’s remarkable record of support in raising over \$35,000 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

The class of 2010 is indeed an outstanding group.

Graham Keen’s work is but one example of the strong sense of community that is imparted to Wagner students. On pages 9–13, you will read about the Port Richmond Partnership, one of the newest components of our civic engagement program. As you’ll see, the Port Richmond Partnership offers a meaningful way for our students to become engaged in the local community and to help make a measurable difference in the lives of New Yorkers. In the specific project featured in these pages, students were paired with new immigrants to write their stories as a way of helping to remove the stigma and stereotypes with which immigrants are often saddled.

By expanding students’ understanding of the world, this partnership is helping us prepare them to be leaders in an intercultural democracy. No matter their field of work, it’s our goal that all Wagner graduates become civic-minded professionals.

I believe the class of 2010 exemplifies the achievement of this goal to the highest degree.



RICHARD GUARASCI
PRESIDENT

From the Editor

The Man Behind the Mystery

What kind of a man can pull off such a high-wire act? That was the question I kept pondering as I read page after nail-biting page of *The Infiltrator*, Robert Mazur's account of his life as an undercover government agent. Posing as a mob-connected businessman, he infiltrated the Medellín drug cartel and the dirty banks that serviced the cartel's financial needs.

To succeed in this assignment, the 1972 Wagner business graduate had to be many things all at once: First of all, he had to be an entrepreneurial businessman and expert accountant, capable of executing foolproof money-laundering systems. He also had to be the most convincing kind of actor — one who was able to gain enough trust from his audience that they would put millions of dollars into his

hands and give him access to their secret underworld.

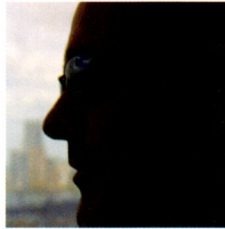
Yet amidst all of this scheming and acting, he had to stay focused on his ultimate goal as a lawman: gathering the evidence that would bring these criminals to justice.

Mazur stuck to this goal with hard-bitten determination, even when people *inside* of law enforcement undermined the operation, never mind the drug lords' threats.

So, when I met Bob Mazur for an interview on June 3, I expected someone who would come off as rather imposing — someone like a hard-boiled detective, someone with ego to spare.

Instead, the man I met was soft-spoken, thoughtful, patient, even gentle. He was a man who said things like, "Just because you are working for

the quote good guys doesn't give you the right to step all over people"; a man who comes off as perfectly genuine



when he says, "I was there because I saw that this was an opportunity to do

something significant, to be a part of making a difference."

I hope you will enjoy *The Infiltrator* excerpt on pages 14–17, and read the whole book. To read more about my interview with "the man behind the mystery," please visit www.wagner.edu/wagnermagazine. We're building a new magazine website — let us know what you think.

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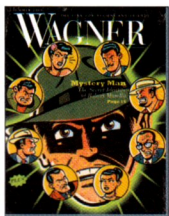
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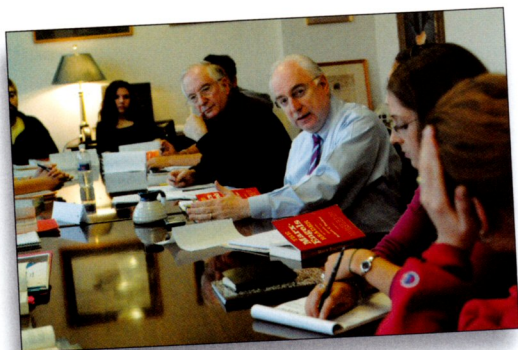
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On the Cover

Lou Brooks, our cover illustrator, is one of the best-known contributors to the iconography of our popular culture. His work has appeared in just about every major national magazine, and his "Mr. Monopoly" character, designed for Parker Brothers in 1985, is a classic. Visit www.loubrooks.com to learn more about his art and books.

From Our Readers



“How lucky they are to have those professors in one classroom!”

First Class

[The fall 2009 issue is the] best issue that has ever been put out by far... It reflects a school that finally seems to have come of age: great content, photos, diverse coverage, information, alumni updates, facts, fun, etc. This is first class, and let's make sure it continues! Congrats and great work.

JACK M. SCHOLZ JR. '92 M'94
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Life-Changing Moments

When I received [the fall 2009] *Wagner Magazine* and saw that Dr. Guarasci and Dr. Rappaport were team teaching once again ["Coursework," page 9],

I was so pleased for those students. How lucky they are to have those professors in one classroom! They'll never be the same as a result of it!

Since my time at Wagner, I've had a number of opportunities to reflect on my time and experiences there. I realize that many of my thoughts, opinions, and actions related to diversity and social justice received a strong foundation in my fall 1999 Diversity and Democracy Learning Community, taught by Dr. Guarasci, and in my subsequent LCs.

Wagner changed me in so many positive ways. As a professional, the foundation I

received at Wagner regarding community and civic engagement has really influenced me. I created the Office of Off-Campus Housing at Iona College in July 2008. My mission, my visions, my learning outcomes, and the theories influencing my actions all involve engaging students (and Iona) with the greater New Rochelle community, educating students about responsible citizenship, and helping them live Iona's mission on and off campus.

The [leadership] theme of this issue of *Wagner Magazine* was also relevant because I've been setting some long-term goals and thinking about doctoral

degree programs. Specifically, I've thought about leadership at a college or university's highest level. Both Br. James Liguori, Iona's president, and Dr. Brian Nickerson, Iona's dean of arts and sciences, have cited the academic development occurring under Dr. Guarasci's leadership at Wagner as a sign of a president with a vision who's truly bringing higher education to the next level. I am so proud to have been at Wagner under his leadership.

Finally, thinking back to my fall '99 LC, I remember one day when Dr. Guarasci stopped me outside of our classroom in Main Hall and asked me if I'd ever considered going to graduate school. He was the first person in my life to ever suggest I could and should go to graduate school. That simple conversation literally changed the trajectory of my life. I continue to be so grateful to have had that encouragement from someone I respect so much!

MICHELE L. SAMPSON '03
DIRECTOR OF OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING
IONA COLLEGE
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We'd Love to Hear from You

We welcome letters from readers. Letters should refer to material published in the magazine and include the writer's full name, address, and

telephone number. The editor reserves the right to determine the suitability of letters for publication and to edit them for accuracy and length.

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Upon the Hill

Learning, teaching, giving and achieving on Grymes Hill and beyond

Grand Opening

Foundation Hall, Wagner's first new residence hall in more than 40 years, was formally dedicated on March 19. The four-story building, which opened in January, houses nearly 200 students. Wagner Lifetime Trustee Michael Manzulli (shown cutting the ribbon with President Guarasci) and other members of the Richmond County Savings Foundation, whose \$5 million leadership gift lent the hall its name, were on hand for the ribbon cutting.

See more photos of Foundation Hall on pages 22–24.



Borrowers Take Note

Federal student loan program undergoes systemic change

Always a busy place, Wagner's financial aid office has seen an unprecedented flurry of activity this spring and summer since the U.S. Congress approved a significant change in the federal student loan system.

Signed into law by

President Obama on March 30, the new law eliminates the bank-based federal loan program and makes the federal government a direct lender to students for post-high school education.

The change will not be noticeable to students entering college for the first time this fall, says Theresa Weimer '95 M'97, director of financial aid at Wagner.

Those students may simply join the Direct Loan Program; eligibility is determined through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

It's the returning students and their families who will see a change, as they are required to resubmit their loan applications to join the new system. About

75 percent of Wagner students receive financial aid; in the 2009–10 academic year, Wagner processed more than 2,400 loans through various federal programs.

(Many students receive more than one loan, but only one new application to the Direct Loan Program is necessary.)



(CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE)



STANDING O

Jorel Joseph '10 applauds a fellow graduate. *Inset:* Honorees Bernard and Fischetti exchange greetings while President Guarasci and commencement speaker Siebert look on.

Commencement 2010

Pioneering financier and scientist alum headline the day's festivities

Six hundred students received their degrees at commencement on May 21. Muriel Siebert, the first woman ever to become a member of the New York Stock Exchange, gave the commencement address. Also receiving honorary degrees were baccalaureate speaker A. R. Bernard Sr., founder and CEO of the Christian Cultural Center in Brooklyn, and



Vincent Fischetti '62, professor and head of the Laboratory of Bacterial Pathogenesis and Immunology at Rockefeller University in Manhattan. Fischetti's research has led to groundbreaking insights into pathogen structure and new methods of bacterial control.

("BORROWERS TAKE NOTE," CONTINUED)

In the months since the law was passed, Wagner's financial aid office has been getting out the word on all possible channels, from Facebook to table tents in the dining hall to old-fashioned letters, to alert students and families of the need to reapply for federal aid through the Direct Loan Program. As of mid-June, more than 800 Wagner families still needed to take this step.

Another effect of this legislation on current students, says Weimer, is that borrowers will now have more than one lender to repay. "Borrowers need to make sure to read all the material they receive and repay all of their loans," she says. She recommends that borrowers consider options for consolidating their loans.

Students and families may review their borrowing history on the National Student Loan Data System, accessible at www.nslds.ed.gov.

Another result of the legislation will be an increase in the Pell Grant program, which provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduates. About 15 percent of Wagner students are eligible for the Pell Grant. "The real positive of this program is that there will be more Pell money," says Angelo Araimo, vice president for enrollment and planning.

If you have any questions about financial aid at Wagner College, contact the Office of Financial Aid at finaid@wagner.edu or 718-390-3122.



Bullish About Wagner

The Putting Wagner First campaign, kicked off at Ellis Island in October 2007, celebrated another milestone at another historic New York City location on March 23. On that date, President Guarasci rang the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange, announcing that the largest campaign in the school's history had reached its fundraising goal: \$50 million. Several of Wagner's key donors and friends accompanied President Guarasci, as seen here. Read more about the campaign on page 27. **Watch a video of the event at www.wagner.edu/news/node/1394.**



Coursework **A BRIEF LOOK AT INTERESTING WAGNER CLASSES**

RE 291:

The Qualben Seminar:
Conversations on Religion
and Spirituality

When this class first met at the beginning of the spring semester, there was no course syllabus. There was no reading list. There was nothing but one general topic, one expert in religious studies, and eight invited students.

By semester's end, when the class met for dinner with sponsor and longtime Wagner friend Ruth Qualben, they had gone on a considerable journey through

the terrain of contemporary spirituality studies: from shamanism, to the Kabbalah, to women's roles in religion, to enlightenment experience, to the spirituality of nature, rock and roll, and African-American music.

Each topic was selected, developed, and taught by one of the student participants in the weekly seminar meeting. "I wanted to see what interests self-motivated college students have in the area of religion and spirituality, and they're not interested in mainline religions," said Walter Kaelber, professor of religious



studies, the convener of this unusual classroom experiment.

The students seem to have enjoyed the ride, saying that they appreciated the chance to develop their own ideas, and also to see how each topic built on the next. "Getting others' feedback on my ideas was the most rewarding part," said Andrew Hager '10.

Hero's Homecoming

Wagner honors Andrew Bailey '06, MLB Rookie of the Year

In January, Wagner bestowed a rare honor to recognize a very special achievement by a former Seahawk.

Andrew Bailey '06 crowned a spectacular first season in Major League Baseball when he was named the American League's 2009 Rookie of the Year. The hard-throwing right-hander for the Oakland As saved a rookie club record 26 games — the last 21 consecutively.

Bailey's Seahawk number 17 was retired at halftime of the January 28 men's home basketball game. He is only the fourth Seahawk to be honored in this way, joining Joe Doyle '99 (baseball), Alonzo Patterson '83 (football), and Terrance Bailey '87 (basketball). He is the second Seahawk to be named AL Rookie of the Year; the late Curt Blefary of the Baltimore Orioles received the title in 1965.

"I remember going to that gym and watching all the home basketball games," Bailey told MLB.com the day after the ceremony. "So I never thought I'd be there retiring my number, especially so soon. Wagner will always have a special place in my heart. That's where I spent four of my years, and that college really got me to the next level."



HOT STUFF

Very few Wagner student-athletes' numbers have been retired — 2009 AL Rookie of the Year Andrew Bailey '06 is only the fourth. But could he be the first Wagner alumnus to become a character in a video game? The company 2K Sports made him one in MLB 2K10.



Arts Letters

Lending a literary voice to the haunts of history

"We live in a haunted time," writes Erica L. Johnson at the beginning of her new book, *Caribbean Ghostwriting* (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2009). In the popular imagination, ghosts typically arise after mysterious deaths; Johnson argues that forgotten or suppressed stories can haunt the annals of history as well.

Johnson, an associate professor of English and director of Wagner College's Honors Program, analyzes several literary attempts to give historical "ghosts" a voice. "Ghostwriting" is her term for a subgenre of historical fiction exemplified by the Caribbean authors Maryse Condé, Dionne Brand, and Wagner alumna Michelle Cliff '69, who "write novels about Afro-Caribbean and African American women whose lives find fleeting and inconsistent mention in the archives."

In *Free Enterprise*, for example, Cliff "offers a poetic portrait" of Mary Ellen Pleasant, a little-known yet fascinating African American who seems to have provided significant financial and moral support for the famous 1859 event known as John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry.

Courtside Turnover

Men's basketball program under new leadership

On the heels of a 5–26 season for men's basketball, Director of Athletics Walt Hameline announced major changes in the program's leadership with the hiring of Dan Hurley as head coach,

replacing Mike Deane.

In seven seasons with the Seahawks, Deane compiled an overall record of 95–114. In 26 years as a head coach, Deane has amassed a record of 437–332.

"We thank Mike for his contributions as head basketball coach at Wagner," said Hameline. "I admire

him greatly as a human being and for the knowledge, competitiveness, and passion he brought to the program. At the end of the day, I decided it was time make a change and go in a different direction."

Learn more about this new direction in a feature interview with Dan Hurley



and his assistant coach and brother, Bobby Hurley, on pages 25–26 of this issue.

WINDOW ON WAGNER: *Cunard Hall* (ca. 1852)

Cunard Hall, the Administration Building, the Hotel Belleview, Westwood – whatever you call it, the three-story, red brick, Italianate villa is by far the oldest building on Wagner College's Grymes Hill campus.

It was built around 1852 by Edward Cunard, the son and heir of Canadian shipping magnate Samuel Cunard. Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Edward came to New York around 1840 to represent the Cunard shipping line. In 1849, he married Mary Bache McEvers of New York. The following year, the Cunards bought property on Staten Island and built a house, which they called Westwood.

Mary Cunard died in 1866 at age 38 while giving birth to their eighth child; her husband died just three years later at the age of 53. Several of their children stayed at Westwood for a few years under the care of their maternal grandmother. When they left Staten Island in 1873, emigrating to England, the children put the house up for sale.

It was finally bought in 1889 by Amzi Lorenzo Barber, an Oberlin College graduate and trustee and former Howard University professor who had made his fortune paving the streets of Washington, D.C. Barber used the villa as his summer residence for four seasons. For several years after that, it was leased to various parties as a hotel or boarding house, known

variously as the Bellevue Club and the Hotel Belleview. Following Barber's death in 1909, the property passed into the hands of Oberlin College, from which Wagner Memorial Lutheran College purchased it in September 1917. The College called it the Administration Building.

In April 1970, Cunard Hall was the scene of a two-day occupation by African-American and Puerto Rican students seeking to pressure the College to become more diverse. The incident, recently memorialized in an alumni symposium, led directly to the hiring of the College's first black administrators and faculty members and the establishment of a black studies program.

– Lee Manchester

Pictured below: Cunard Hall, circa 1852





Conversations That Count

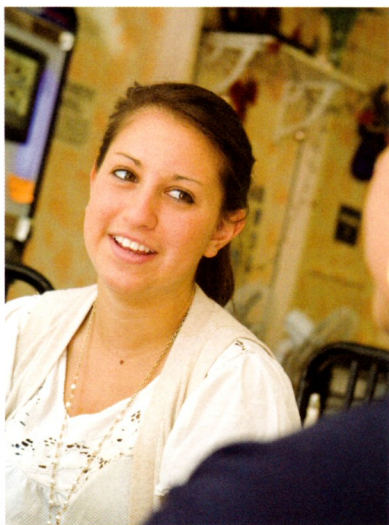
ONE WAGNER CLASS REVEALS THE DIFFICULTIES, THE DELIGHTS, AND THE DREAMS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Laura Barlament

R **REAL-LIFE LEARNING** Avery Miller '11 (*left*) and Cass Freedland (*right*), director of Wagner's Center for Leadership and Service, meet with Port Richmond restaurant owner Maria Morales.



Cass Freedland is running her fingers through her thick, black hair. She sighs. Freedland is a person of seemingly endless patience, but she does have these outlets for releasing tension when her job gets a little complicated. Today, her task is to coordinate the schedules of eight urban policy students, from freshmen to seniors, including one member of the baseball team; eight Staten Island residents, recent immigrants who have families and jobs and businesses to run; and another group of students from an advanced Spanish class, who are volunteering as interpreters so that the urban policy students can conduct interviews of the Spanish-speaking immigrants.



MAKING CONNECTIONS Avery Miller '11 learned first-hand about immigration by interviewing a recent immigrant.

They are all very well-intentioned and committed to this project — but to get them all in the same place at the same time?

It would take a miracle.

This scenario exemplifies the nitty-gritty reality behind what Wagner College calls “civic engagement”: getting the College and the

Staten Island community

to work together in a way that benefits everyone involved. That is, to provide meaningful educational experiences for the students, and address the needs and wishes expressed by the College’s neighbors.

Civic engagement, in fact, is about no less than fulfilling the dreams that students, faculty, administrators, immigrants, citizens, parents, senior citizens, and everyone else involved hold close to their hearts: dreams of creating a better life, of making of our world a better place.

No wonder Freedland is running her fingers through her hair and sighing.



PARTNERSHIP FACILITATOR Cass Freedland helps connect students and faculty with Staten Island community partners.

Cass Freedland is the director of Wagner’s Center for Leadership and Service. This relatively new entity at the College represents the increasing role that civic engagement is playing throughout the Wagner curriculum.

Freedland came to Wagner in 2006, when the College received a major grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service. The three-year, \$450,000 award was given to start the Civic Innovations program, which would link Wagner’s academic departments with organizations that serve underprivileged youth on Staten Island. The idea was to move away from one-shot service projects, and instead create long-term partnerships between Wagner and the community in a way that would make a real difference for student learning and for local needs. Freedland was hired to help make it happen.

“It had all the elements I loved — grant writing and working with faculty, students, and the community,” says Freedland, a Michigan native who has a doctorate in wood chemistry and whose diverse résumé includes creating chemical safety policies, coordinating student interns, and fundraising. “I loved the idea of being back in an academic institution. I firmly believe in learning by doing.”

Freedland has helped faculty from five Civic Innovations departments — nursing, business, sociology and anthropology, government and politics, and history — develop and coordinate projects with partners that range from an entire neighborhood to organizations such as the YMCA.

It's a great idea, and it has seen a lot of success, but it hasn't been easy. To make this program work, says Freedland, the community organizations have to become equal partners with the faculty in creating learning opportunities for students — a developing dynamic that both sides have enjoyed. But students also have to change their expectations of the classroom experience: When civic engagement becomes a part of a class, they are dealing with real life, not with books and problem sets with definite answers.

And the community partners face many challenges that can distract them from working with the students. Chronically understaffed, they sometimes have to drop all other priorities in order to focus on survival: a grant application is due; a client is in crisis; someone becomes ill or leaves the organization.

"A million things can cause a partnership to fall apart," says Freedland. "What I try to get students to understand from the beginning is that even if it didn't go as planned, you've still learned something.

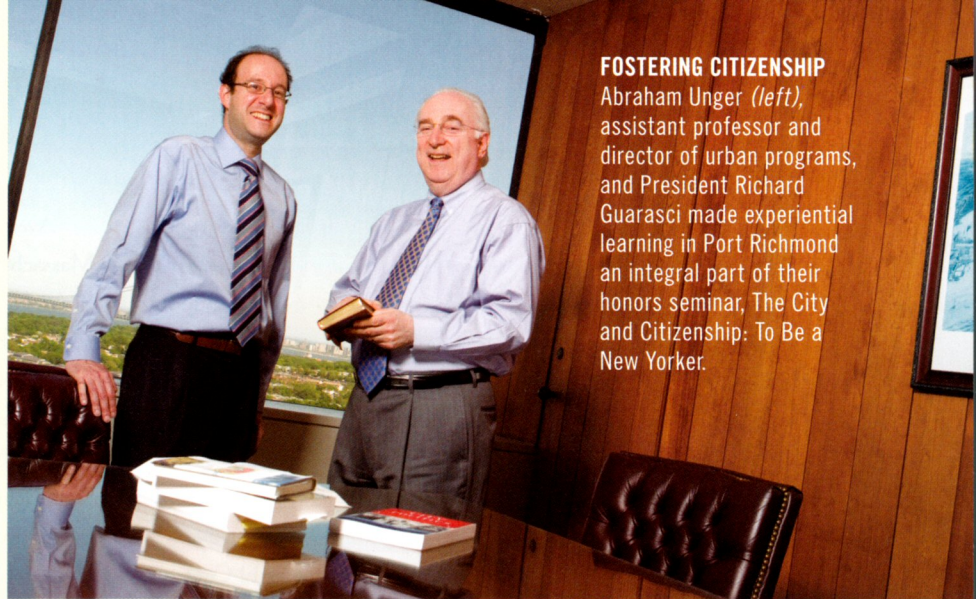
"In fact, having everything not go to completion can be more informative," she insists. "It doesn't always work the way you've planned — but that's real life."

At 7:30 p.m. on a Monday in February, Freedland is sitting in a conference room in the Wagner Union. Behind her, a large bank of windows reveals a breathtaking view of the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge and Brooklyn — a powerful symbol of the College's connection to greater New York City.

This room serves as the classroom for an honors seminar, *The City and Citizenship: To Be a New Yorker*, team taught by Wagner's premier experts on urban studies: Abraham Unger, assistant professor and director of urban programs, and President Richard Guarasci.

This demanding seminar requires students to read their eyeballs out on some of the major academic studies of urban issues. But that's just the beginning: Not only will they learn history and theory of cities, globalization, urban policy, and so forth, but they will also see how these forces are played out in real life today, just a few miles away from Wagner College, as they interview recent immigrants in Port Richmond, Staten Island.

This project arose from a new phase of Wagner's civic engagement effort, the Port Richmond Partnership. Based on the successes of Civic Innovations, Wagner decided to focus its efforts on a single neighborhood. In 2009, Wagner entered into a five-



FOSTERING CITIZENSHIP
Abraham Unger (*left*), assistant professor and director of urban programs, and President Richard Guarasci made experiential learning in Port Richmond an integral part of their honors seminar, *The City and Citizenship: To Be a New Yorker*.

year agreement with seven community organizations in Port Richmond. This economically struggling area is heavily populated by new immigrants and has recently been victimized by hate crimes, but it enjoys a strong network of social support led by churches, schools, and social service agencies.

The partners decided on four areas where they have the potential to make a measurable difference: health care, economic development, education, and immigration.

This seminar will be addressing the last area. The students' interviews will enable them to write compelling accounts of the immigrants' stories, which one of the Port Richmond community partners, El Centro del Inmigrante (the Immigrant Center), will use in its advocacy work.

"Wagner students have been coming to El Centro and tutoring our clients in English since the partnership began," explains Gonzalo Mercado, director of El Centro (as it's colloquially known). "But President Guarasci told me he wanted a more in-depth approach to student involvement."

Mercado saw an opportunity to use student labor to help get out the word about the stories of today's immigrants. "For migrant workers, coming to America is their last resort. I want to make sure people understand that," says Mercado. "I want them to listen to stories from a person who is a father, a son. It gives a different dimension when you make a personal connection."

All agreed that it was an idea with a lot of potential. But making it work would require additional resources. Who would work with the students to write the immigrants' stories effectively? This type of writing is closer to journalism than social science, Unger and Guarasci's area of expertise. And what about the language barrier? Only one student in the seminar spoke Spanish.

A combination of Freedland's good connections with the Wagner faculty and the enthusiasm on campus for the Port Richmond Partnership filled all of these needs. Claire Regan '80,



adjunct professor of journalism and associate managing editor of the *Staten Island Advance*, volunteered to work with the students on interviewing and writing. Wagner's Writing-Intensive Tutors, under the direction of Professor Mary Zanfini, were willing to help as well. And Margarita Sánchez, associate professor of Spanish, was eager to involve herself and her students as translators.

So, on that Monday night in February, as Freedland explains the arrangements she has made for the students' interviews, she is optimistic about the chances of this effort coming off well the following night. It's the workers' usual meeting time at El Centro, translators from Professor Sánchez's class are available, and Claire Regan is helping the students prepare for the interviews.

"You never know what can happen, but it looks good!" Freedland says, smiling.

The following night Freedland is back on campus to drive the students in a Wagner College van to Port Richmond.

Soon after their arrival at El Centro, the students and their interviewees have paired off in the corners and cramped offices of the brightly painted converted storefront near the intersection of Castleton and Port Richmond avenues. The miracle of civic engagement begins to unfold.

Avery Miller '11, a smiling brunette from West Newbury, Massachusetts, says she was worried going into the interview. "I was so nervous that I'd get someone who wouldn't talk," she admits. "But I didn't have that problem at all!"

Appropriately, the business administration major is paired up with a business owner, Maria Morales. Originally from central Mexico, Morales is the proprietor of Los Potrillos restaurant in Port Richmond. "As she walks into El Centro," Miller later wrote in her profile of Morales, "still wearing her hairnet and apron from the restaurant, all those at the center's weekly Tuesday night meeting warmly greet Maria."

That comfort level and warmth set the tone for Miller's interview. She and Morales quickly establish that they do not need the help of a translator — after all, Morales originally came to the U.S. to learn English, a goal she has accomplished. But instead of returning to Mexico after a short time, as she had intended, she has stayed in the U.S. for 15 years, earning her citizenship, raising a child who was born here, and opening Los Potrillos several years ago.

The interview flows on and on, touching on Morales's dreams for her daughter, Kimberly, who attends a local parochial school; her reasons for coming to the United States; her daily routines; her

SERVING THE COMMUNITY Gonzalo Mercado (*left*), director of El Centro del Inmigrante, and Kevin Ferreira '13 stand in front of this community center for immigrants, which offers job training, English classes, and other services (including food distribution, as shown in the detail above).



work history; public safety problems in Port Richmond; and opportunities for immigrants in the U.S.

"What was the biggest disappointment you found here?" Miller asks. "Or what has disappointed you, what was not what you expected?"

"No," says Morales. "Nothing."

Her dream is to improve her restaurant and expand her clientele. She'd like to replace her mismatched tables and chairs, and she would especially like to acquire a functioning air conditioner, so that her facility would live up to the expectations of the American consumer. The Mexicans don't mind the heat, she says; laughing, she pantomimes how they eat her delectable tamales and tacos with the sweat running down their faces. "I want to have one of the best Mexican restaurants," she says. "I just need some capital."

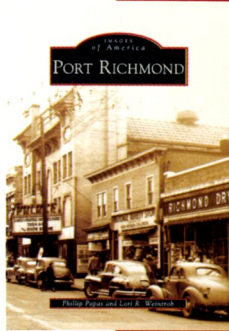
First-year student Kevin Ferreira of Elizabeth, New Jersey, hears a very different kind of story from his interviewee. The son of Portuguese immigrants, Ferreira spent his last two years of high school at an international school in Costa Rica and speaks Spanish fluently. He began volunteering in Port Richmond on his own last semester, teaching a literacy class and working on public advocacy campaigns for El Centro.

Ferreira sits down with Carlos,* age 27, who came to the U.S. from Honduras eight years ago. Wearing a white baseball cap pulled down low on his face, and a jacket with the collar raised, he speaks in a soft monotone, never smiling or making eye contact as he tells his story.

"He said, 'At age 6, I felt different,'" Ferreira later recalled. "When I heard that, I suspected this wasn't going to be the usual immigration story." At age 13, Carlos says, he spoke to his mother about his homosexuality, pleading for her help. She made him tell his father, who beat him and poured boiling water on him, telling him it would purge "the faggot" inside of him. He ran away from home, and so began a life marred by abuse in both Honduras and the U.S.

"There is a great emptiness in my life that I cannot fill," he says, in Ferreira's translation. "They only come looking for me with those things. I am the hardworking type, but I do not know why I haven't gained anything in so much time."

"For me, it was interesting to see how his immigrant story paralleled his sexual identity," Ferreira says. "But it was not what I expected. It was shocking. I was overwhelmed."



A HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD

Port Richmond's long and storied history is brought to life in a new book by Phillip Papas, a historian with family roots in Port Richmond, and Lori R. Weintrob, associate professor of history at Wagner College. *Port Richmond* (2009), a volume in Arcadia Publishing's Images of America series, contains hundreds of archival and current photographs, postcards, and prints from this vital commercial neighborhood that once was called the Fifth Avenue of Staten Island.

As Freedland said, when it comes to civic engagement, you never know what is going to happen. When you are confronted with real life, with the precious burden of people's true stories and real experience, outcomes are uncertain and answers are not necessarily clear. Students can feel confused or question what they've been asked to do — but in the midst of it all, they learn something, and they contribute something.

"Our work might seem minimal," Guarasci acknowledged during one of the final class meetings. But, he tells them, the work they did was only one part in a concert of Wagner involvement in Port Richmond this semester. For example, master's-level nursing students held classes on nutrition, laying the groundwork for sustained clinical support at El Centro; anthropology students mapped community resources, information that will help refine communications about social services; and TD Charitable Foundation presented the College with a \$10,000 gift to fund a financial literacy initiative being spearheaded by Wagner's business and government departments.

"The wave of change in Port Richmond has been incredible," adds Freedland. "It feels like momentum is building."

Gonzalo Mercado of El Centro also expresses his satisfaction with the Wagner students' work. For him, everything they're doing is, to use a Spanish idiom, "*el granito de arena*," a grain of sand — just one small element in the much bigger picture of integrating new people into new places, an ongoing project that stretches back into history and encompasses the whole nation and the whole world.

"Don't underestimate these conversations," are Guarasci's concluding words to the students about their interviews. "It opens up doors." ■



* NOT HIS REAL NAME

MYSTERY MAN

ROBERT MAZUR JOINED THE SHADOWS TO BRING SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE

From September 1986 to October 1988, Robert Mazur '72 — Staten Island native, Wagner College finance major, federal government employee, husband and father — was not himself. As an undercover special agent for the U.S. Customs Service, Mazur played the role of Robert Musella: a wealthy, mob-connected businessman. In

this role, Mazur became the middleman in a multi-million-dollar money-laundering scheme for the Medellín drug cartel. His unwitting yet eagerly was a major international bank, the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI).



Mazur became a part of this shadow world in order to pull back the curtain. While playing Bob Musella,

Mazur always kept the tape recorders rolling and conversations steered toward gaining clear and damning evidence against cartel members and dirty bankers alike. Operation C-Chase, as it was known, resulted in “one of the largest money-laundering prosecutions in U.S. history,” according to FBI Director Robert Mueller. Evidence Mazur gathered led to the indictment of more than 80 bankers and drug cartel members and the conviction of Panamanian General Manuel Noriega for drug trafficking.

Now Mazur has told this remarkable tale, filled with drama and danger, in a compelling memoir, *The Infiltrator: My Secret Life Inside the Dirty Banks Behind Pablo Escobar's Medellín Cartel* (Little, Brown & Co., 2009).

The following excerpt takes place in the fall of 1987, when Mazur (as Musella) and fellow undercover agent Kathy Ertz, posing as his fiancée, take a trip to New York City with Roberto Alcaíno, a cocaine transporter for the Medellín cartel. Having recently established a partnership with Alcaíno, Musella is pushing for more of Alcaíno's business. Through Alcaíno, Mazur hopes to gain information and access to higher echelons of the criminal elite.

IT IS A TIGHTROPE WALK, FRAUGHT WITH ALL KINDS OF DANGERS, AS THIS STORY REVEALS.



AN EXCERPT FROM "THE INFILTRATOR" BY ROBERT MAZUR

The next day, Alcaíno bought first-class tickets for himself, Kathy, and me to fly [from Florida] to New York. Before leaving, I phoned my contact there, Customs Supervisor Tommy Loreto, to inform him that we would be flying into Kennedy. Loreto didn't like the idea of Kathy and me on our own with Alcaíno, but I insisted against a surveillance team covering us on arrival. Alcaíno was still feeling



out our partnership. If he spotted surveillance, we stood to lose everything. I carried a phone and pager; calling a safe number to report our status seemed adequate to me. Safeguarding my contact with Alcaíno in the U.S., while turning down his invitation to spend time with him in Colombia, looked bad.

Loreto acquiesced.

Joaquin Casals, Alcaíno's right hand, met us at Kennedy. Even at a distance the young, burly, Cuban former Marine looked like the strong arm for a dope organization. Before we even left the Van Wyck Expressway, we knew his full name, what schools he attended, where he owned property, and where he had traveled in the past several weeks.

AS WE DODGED New York's infamous potholes on our way to Manhattan, Casals pulled off the expressway onto the back streets of Queens. It looked like he was checking for a tail. As we cruised through Corona — a rough neighborhood — Kathy appeared tense. Trained as a cop, she was already thinking worst-case scenario. At this point, a surveillance team wasn't going to be able to save our lives. They'd only be able to find our bodies quickly.

Like dogs, quality criminals can sense your fear, and, like dogs, if they sense fear, they bite. As we neared Manhattan, I joked about how Queens reminded me of the tough neighborhood of my youth. I played the angle that Kathy had lived the privileged life, a diplomat's spoiled little princess. She ran with the story and filled Alcaíno's head with her tales of her

privileged youth spent traveling Europe. By the time we arrived at the Helmsley Palace, everyone was at ease. Before Casals drove him off, Alcaíno instructed us to meet him at 8:30 in the lobby of the hotel, where he would pick us up for dinner.



There was only one bathroom in our hotel suite, so we took turns getting ready. After reporting to Loreto, I headed to the lobby. The elevator doors opened to reveal Alcaíno beaming at me in his tailored, double-breasted suit.

As we waited for Kathy to arrive, our discussion turned to the Helmsley Palace, and Alcaíno asked me whether I thought it was profitable. Which immediately brought to mind a story that Charlie Broun, Bruce Perlowin's accountant and the manager of the Red Carpet Inns, had once told me.* According to Charlie,

his people often prepared records to show every room occupied, even though the hotel was virtually empty. It allowed them to push dope money through as hotel revenue. With all the hotel's write-offs, no taxes had to be paid, and the dope money was legitimized.

AS I WAS HALFWAY THROUGH the story, someone on the other side of the lobby shouted,

"Bob!" My head snapped toward the voice, and there before me stood Charlie Broun in a business suit, with his wavy Colonel Sanders hair and a huge smile.

Oh, shit. Charlie had done his time and was now apparently back in action. He started charging in my direction, his eyes glowing with surprise.

Time stopped.

In a split second that felt like a century, I turned to Alcaíno and said, "An old friend. I'll be with you in a moment."

“Like dogs, quality criminals can sense your fear, and, like dogs, if they sense fear, they bite.”

* Mazur's previous undercover work led to the conviction of Charlie Broun for money laundering on behalf of international drug trafficker Bruce Perlowin. Because of Broun's cooperation with the prosecution, Mazur supported a reduced sentence for Broun.

I paced toward Charlie as fast as I could. As I held him in a bear hug, I whispered in his ear, "I'm under again, Charlie. Play along."

As I let go, I saw that Alcaíno had followed me. He was standing at my shoulder.

Did he hear me?

No, he had been too far away, but now I couldn't coach Charlie anymore. Beads of cold sweat rolled down the small of my back. Casals was outside and no doubt packing heat.

To my grateful surprise, Charlie took my lead as though we had been working together for years. In his Mississippi twang, he drawled, "Well, Bob, the boys in Vegas really miss you. Why the hell are you working so hard? You need to come out there and relax with us the way you always have in the past. You're getting too wound up. I know you're doing everybody a great service, but you need to make time for you."

We joked and hugged again before Charlie walked off with my promise to join him the next morning for breakfast at the hotel.

WHEN KATHY CAME DOWN, Casals drove us to a lavish meal at Il Cortile, a high-end mob hangout on Mulberry Street in Little Italy. Alcaíno introduced us to his favorite meal, *palafitta*: a thin, pie-shaped crust filled with lobster tail, stuffed mussels,

jumbo shrimp, stuffed clams, stuffed calamari, and octopus — all smothered in a rich marinara sauce. Casals waited outside, the car running the whole time.

From there we hit the Blue Note, an old jazz club in the Village, where, over snifters of Louis XIV cognac, we soaked up some of the hottest jazz in town and talked for hours about everything but business. At 2:00 a.m., after cannoli and cappuccino with amaretto, Alcaíno dropped us



“Beads of cold sweat rolled down the small of my back. Casals was outside and no doubt packing heat.”

back at the Helmsley Palace with an invitation to lunch the next day before he caught a flight to Paris.

THE NEXT MORNING, at breakfast with Charlie,

I gave him a vague overview of the operation. He immediately offered his full support.

"Listen, Bob. I didn't burn you because I'm a different man from the Charlie Broun you knew. I appreciate how you treated me. While I was in prison, I read Watergate burglar Charles Colson's book and became a born-again Christian. My faith in God is more important to me than anything. You're a good man, and you're doing important work. I still have some strong connections in Vegas, especially at Caesar's Palace, so if you'd like me to set you up so you can comp a bunch of these

Colombians and show them a good time, you just let me know."

"Charlie, you're a good man," I said sincerely. "I can't thank you enough. Sometime soon I'll take you up on your offer."

ALCAÍNO TOOK KATHY AND ME to lunch at Aperitivo on West Fifty-sixth Street, another exclusive Italian haunt where he was well known.

Afterward, as Alcaíno and I strolled along Fifty-sixth Street, I said to him, "Roberto, I'm looking for an honorable and powerful South American connection. I realize we need to get to know one another, but I also recognize that you've done a lot of business without me in the past three months. Why haven't you brought any of that to me?"

Alcaíno smiled. "Anything good comes slowly. We have the capability and opportunity to



do big business together.”

Time to get serious.

“You and I share a lot of traits. We both have power, loyalty, and compassion. We both hold our families in high esteem. We both respect and reward the women in our lives.

Roberto, I have nothing more to show

you until we resume the business we were doing and supplement it with the investments. I've let you get close to my personal life, including my future wife, as a sign of trust. You are one of the few individuals who is sufficiently respected by the Colombians and can realistically convince them of the necessity for them to invest through our companies. The Moras in Colombia are driven by profits and unrealistically think they have no risks because they're not here in the U.S. I will either align myself with you or forget about your markets and go back to working for my family.”

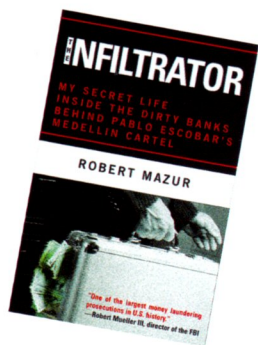
Alcaíno looked at me like a father. “Bob, this process is necessary, and we will consummate our agreement after I return from Europe. I'll have about \$2 million that I will bring to you, some to transfer and some to invest. My cut from what I have going here with the big ones is 200 kilos per month, so I'll be earning \$5 million a month here alone. I'll give a good part of that to you to invest, plus I'll talk the big ones into doing the same. I'll also make my people available for you. Joe [Casals] can do more than drive. He's good at other things, too.”

HE FORMED HIS HAND INTO THE SHAPE OF A PISTOL and hammered his thumb down. Casals was also an assassin.

When I played Charlie Broun's offer of a stay in Vegas, Alcaíno reciprocated by inviting Kathy and me to stay with him and his family at their mansion in Pasadena.

“Bob, believe me,” he said. “We are going to do big business together. Trust me. Your patience will be rewarded in ways you can never imagine.”

AND IT WAS.



Where Is Bob Mazur Today?

Bob Mazur's life as Bob Musella ended on October 8, 1988. The takedown happened at a wedding – the staged wedding of himself and fellow agent Kathy Ertz. Dozens of Musella's business associates were arrested at the lavish affair.

Trials and testimony consumed Mazur's next couple of years. His identity was leaked, and the cartel put a \$500,000 price on his head. To this day, he does not allow publication of his photograph, which is why *Wagner Magazine* chose to use an illustration not based on Mazur's features.

Mazur retired from the government in 1998 and started his own company, Chase & Associates. He continues to inform the public, law enforcement, and banks about the prevalence and the dangers of money laundering. In June, he appeared on PBS's *Need to Know* about a current money-laundering case by a major bank. This year, the National Alumni Association recognized him as an Alumni Fellow in Business.

Find more about Bob Mazur, his book, and related movie project at www.wagner.edu/wagnermagazine.

YEAR



THREE

Whether a student stays nearby or goes far away, learning becomes an adventure during year three of the Wagner Plan for the Practical Liberal Arts. Here, *Wagner Magazine* presents the third installment of our multi-year series following students through their four years at Wagner. This time, we get a glimpse into two students' learning process, whether it's a struggle with advanced microbiology techniques or an immersion into a different language and culture — in their own words.

Anna Lysenko:

Life in the Lab

Excerpts from Anna Lysenko's spring 2010 journal about her internship at the Institute for Basic Research on Staten Island, where she studied the effects of Alzheimer's disease on neural development in mouse brains. After graduating in August, she will begin work as a research assistant at the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. See a presentation by Lysenko about this research here: www.wagner.edu/media/node/556.

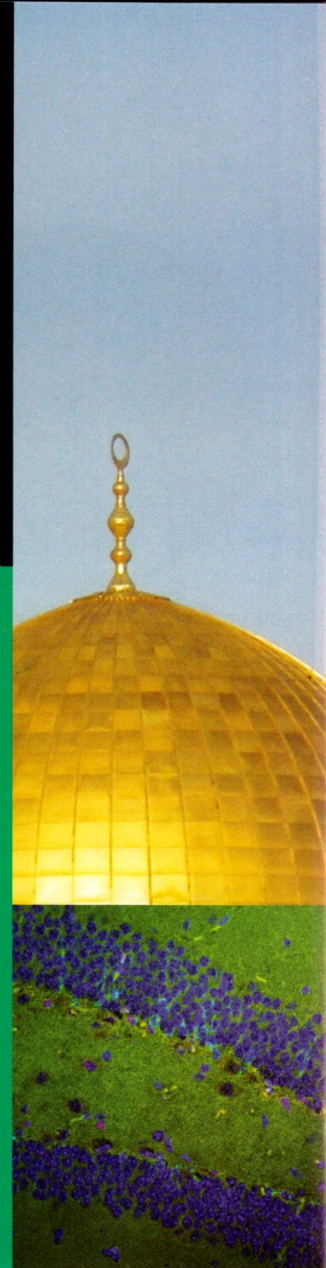
MONDAY, JANUARY 18

This week I continued my training in confocal microscopy. I feel like the machine runs on pixie dust, because it seems to work magical things. It's just amazing that you can stain a brain section so that you see only DNA material and have it fluoresce a beautiful bright blue.

Z-stacks are unbelievable to me as well. You take a brain section that is so thin — 8 micrometers, less than a tenth of the thickness of a human hair — and use a laser to slice it into sections that are 20

times thinner, if not even smaller. The computer uses these slices, a z-stack, to create a 3-D image that you can rotate and move around, so you can see all angles of it. It is simply amazing.

I loved how the researchers approached teaching me. They are so happy to be doing their jobs, and it is an unbelievably positive environment. I definitely have more of an understanding of what these people do on a daily basis. And it fit my stereotype very well — they are a bunch of nerdy lab rats, but they love every minute



LEFT TOP, DETAIL OF THE DOME OF THE ROCK SHRINE ON JERUSALEM'S TEMPLE MOUNT. LEFT BOTTOM, IMAGE TAKEN WITH A CONFOCAL MICROSCOPE, SHOWING A MOUSE BRAIN SECTION WITH SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE.

at their job. I know I will love having this as my career.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

This week I spent about 13 hours at my internship doing immunostaining for the confocal microscope. I am really excited to see how it came out; I knew what I was doing more so than the first time around. The only problem that I had was when I was wiping the slide dry in the very end, I accidentally broke it in half and had to glue it back together — I was kind of like the Hulk for a minute.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

This week I learned a lot, but it was also extremely slow. I learned a procedure called PCR, a genetic test that shows whether the animal actually has the gene that we are looking for — in this case, a gene with mutations that cause early Alzheimer's disease. This was a very long process that mainly involved a lot of down time. But in the end, it was exciting to see which mouse actually had the gene and which did not.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

I had a moment of frustration this week when I had to redo immunostaining for probably the third time on the same mouse because the staining was just not of high enough quality. I was following protocol perfectly; I have read over and rewritten all of my instructions numerous times with very careful notes. Redoing the same sections from the same brain is frustrating, because you have to get another

appointment to use the confocal, look at the slides again, and see if this time was more successful — and if it wasn't, then next week you have to do it all over again.

MONDAY, MARCH 29

I spent this week testing different parts of my immunostaining procedure to see what was causing the problems. One of the possibilities my mentor came up with was that the antibody we were using was not good. So we decided to eliminate the

“ I feel like the machine runs on pixie dust, because it seems to work magical things. ”

ANNA LYSENKO

secondary antibody and just test the primaries to see if we get different results. We did get better results, but our problem of red dots on some stains was not resolved. This will need further thinking and problem solving.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

This week I continued to test which parts of my immunostaining were not working properly — and I finally found



ANNA LYSENKO FELT RIGHT AT HOME AMONG THE “NERDY LAB RATS” SHE MET DURING HER INTERNSHIP AT THE INSTITUTE FOR BASIC RESEARCH.



**YEAR
THREE**
THE WAGNER PLAN

the solution. My mentor suggested that the red dots could be bacteria. We use fetal bovine serum to dilute antibodies and block nonspecific binding, and fetal bovine serum is very prone to

bacteria growth. I had to follow a detailed, multi-step process to get rid of any traces of bacteria, and it actually worked. Our samples, which we have been re-staining for three weeks now, finally do not have red dots on them.

I feel such a sense of accomplishment. I finally solved a problem in the lab and actually was able to provide them with useful information. Although my mentor helped me figure out possible causes of the problem, I did all the work. Also, throughout this whole process, I became very well acquainted with other researchers in my lab, and realized everyone functions as a community, almost like a family. This is truly an environment I want to work in.

Katie Jo Younkins: Life in Israel

Excerpts from Katie Jo Younkins' spring 2010 blog about studying abroad at the Rothberg International School at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, one of Wagner's new programs. Younkins is an international affairs major scheduled to graduate next May. Read the complete blog at <http://truelifeimlivinginabombshelter.blogspot.com>.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

On Friday of last week, I went down to the shuk, which is the open-air market, and it was *insane!* It was incredible to see all the fresh produce, but it was so busy, as everyone was shopping for Shabbat dinner and Saturday meals. It's really hard to understand that after four o'clock on Fridays and before six o'clock on Saturdays you really are just resting.

Classes started on Monday. Wow. Hebrew is beyond hard. I have been to the grocery store up the street a few times, but still wander through the aisles looking at everything, having no idea what it is. One, I rarely shop and



KATIE JO YOUNKINS WAS IMMERSSED IN NEW EXPERIENCES DURING HER SEMESTER IN JERUSALEM. IN THIS PHOTO, JERUSALEM IS SEEN FROM THE MOUNT OF OLIVES.

cook on my own, and two ... it's all in Hebrew! Double fail.

The week went on, and I got to know so many more people. Kids from all over the States and the world. It's really exhilarating to see everyone wanting to study here.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

Last Saturday evening I went to the community of Pisgat Ze'ev for Tu Bishvat, a holiday like Arbor Day in Israel. Wagner requires me to do community service for 10 hours a week at the Jewish Community Center in Pisgat Ze'ev, the sister organization of the Staten Island JCC. It was a lot of fun, and I am really excited to be going up there each week. It makes me feel as if I have a family already over here. I was introduced to many people in the community, and they were excited to finally meet me, as they knew that a student would be arriving soon.

On the way back, we drove through the West Bank. Yes! The West Bank! It was nothing like I expected. We drove right through the security without being stopped, and then we went to see a Jewish settlement. I was a little nervous, but then we were back in Israel. It is so confusing between what is Arab land and what is Jewish land. I really can't even begin to explain.

Today is Sunday, and we had class — really weird to have classes on Sunday. I keep catching myself staring out the window during class, looking at the West Bank and the mosques. I should be paying

attention, but it really is beautiful to just look out onto the desert.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Today my roommate Aviva and I walked around campus and took some pictures. It was really neat, because we heard the bells of the churches and then after that we heard the call to prayer from the mosques. When I first heard it, I was in class and thought it was a lawnmower, and then the next time I thought it was cows. It is very interesting to hear.

On the east side of campus, you look into the West Bank. It is crazy to just sit there and watch. I mean, I'm in the center of the world, for everything — religion, politics. And it looks so peaceful and serene. It's just mountains everywhere, desert mountains. They go on forever. That view will never get old.

I just can't wrap my head around how people are living in this area and there is so much controversy. They are truly just living their lives. It is so different than what I thought before coming out here.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Classes I am taking: Hebrew, Arab-Israeli Conflict, Historical Geography of Jerusalem, and Peace Building and Conflict Resolution. Classes are going really well so far. Hebrew is a much slower pace, and I feel that I am finally catching on.

“I'm in the center of the world, for everything — religion, politics. And it looks so peaceful and serene.”

KATIE JO YOUNKINS

MONDAY, MARCH 15

Last Wednesday I went up to Pisgat Ze'ev. I had to take a cab up there, and I spoke in Hebrew to the driver! I mean, I only said, “Kenyon Pisgat Ze'ev,” which is the mall there, but he turned the wrong way and then I told him where to turn ... in Hebrew! It felt satisfying.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

For my Historical Geography class, we had a field trip to the Old City again. What a beautiful day! It is just so interesting going down to the Old City and seeing something different each time. We saw about three bar mitzvahs. Watching the families singing and dancing just shows how important this culture and religion really is. I don't think it hit me until I saw how happy the mothers and grandmothers were. There is true joy in the fact that their child is entering the world as an adult.

We were down on the southern part of the Temple Mount, seeing the Babylonian and Umayyad temples. When I sit on the stones, I'm always asking myself, How on Earth am I here in Israel doing something like this? It randomly hits me how lucky I am to have an opportunity to study and travel in this country. ■

Room to GROW

Foundation Hall opens just in time to send off the class of 2010

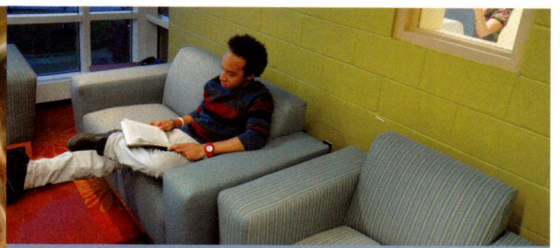
Over the past decade, Wagner College has undergone a transformation from a majority commuter school to a primarily residential campus. Wagner now draws most of its students from outside of New York City, and about 75 percent of today's undergraduates live on campus.

This sea change accompanied the College's adoption of a new curriculum, the Wagner Plan for the Practical Liberal Arts. Its last stage is the Senior Program, in which students cap off their Wagner education with a special course in their major, an internship or other type of fieldwork, and an independent project.

Both of these factors came together in the creation of Foundation Hall, which opened in January. It is the first new residence facility to be constructed on campus in more than 40 years, adding space for nearly 200 students; and it was designed specifically for seniors, to augment the Senior Program and prepare them for the transition to life after Wagner.

On these pages, you'll see some scenes from Foundation Hall's first semester of use, as anxious seniors prepared for their next steps in life.

PHOTOGRAPHS: NICK ROMANENKO



The Suite Spot Foundation Hall's rooms are arranged in suites, with two bedrooms sharing one bathroom and a kitchenette. Pictured at left is one of the six Seahawk Suites in the building, which have an expanded living area. Seniors Alyssa Kennedy, Alayna Butryn, and Lisa Krawciw shared this suite with their pet fish Montego.

Room With a View Large lounges with floor-to-ceiling windows (as seen above and on the opposite page from the outside) anchor the ends of each floor. These spaces attract students like Christian Carey '12, a philosophy and economics double major who doesn't live in Foundation but likes to study here.



Connectivity Sociology major Stefen Gage '11 spends a lot of time in this study lounge, one of three in the building. "This is the best part of Foundation," he says. He got used to studying here early on, before wireless Internet access was set up in his room. Wireless Internet is now available throughout the building.



Welcome to Foundation Paula Chamberlain '12 is one of the front-door desk attendants for Foundation Hall. This building has new security features: Besides using their ID cards to open the front door, students also swipe their cards at a turnstile after entering the building. The turnstile allows only one person at a time to enter. A photo of the card holder then appears on a computer monitor at the front desk.





Ready for the Real World In the Manzulli Board Room on the first floor of Foundation Hall, seniors Sarah Bullock, Ben Serbiak, and Alison Magistrali attend a workshop on negotiating job offers. This is one in a series of programs designed to help seniors with their transition to post-graduate life, offered through a collaboration of the offices of residential education, career development, and alumni affairs and the Student Government Association.



Squeaky Clean Lauren Raynor '11 uses one of the laundry rooms located on each floor of Foundation Hall.



Brain Food Daniel Gonzalez serves senior theatre majors Jessica Pucek and Jason Garrison at the Starbucks Café, another new feature in this residence hall. The top-selling drinks, Gonzalez says, are hot chocolate and caramel macchiato.

SIBLING POWER

Dan Hurley (left) and Bobby Hurley Jr.



The Hurley Factor

What do two brothers from a legendary basketball clan bring to the Seahawk program?

On April 7, Dan Hurley was introduced as the 17th head basketball coach in Wagner College history. A standout player at Seton Hall from 1991 to 1996, Hurley compiled a sparkling 223–21 record in nine seasons as head coach at St. Benedict's Prep in Newark, New Jersey.

Hurley brings not only his own accomplishments to the Seahawks, but also those of a legendary basketball family. Dan hired his older brother, Bobby Hurley Jr., as an assistant coach. A former Duke University All-

American, Bobby is the all-time assist leader in the history of college basketball and played five seasons in the NBA with the Sacramento Kings. Their father is Bob Hurley Sr., head coach of St. Anthony in Jersey City, where he has won 984 games in 38 seasons. He will be inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in August.

Wagner's assistant athletic director for media relations, John Beisser, sat down to talk with Dan and Bobby Hurley in May.

What are the challenges of transitioning from high school basketball to college basketball?

Dan: I think it would be a lot more challenging if I didn't have a college background coaching for four seasons at Rutgers [1997-2001], which I've been drawing from. And the level that we played at St. Benedict's prepared me for the job, the intensity of recruiting and how to run a great program.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25)

You've already brought several quality players into the program. What are the selling points of Wagner?

Dan: It's obviously a very good liberal arts college. Location is big for us with the proximity to Manhattan and the Jersey Shore. Being in the basketball capital of the United States is another big selling point, as well as a great staff. And my track record as a head coach and Wagner's really good tradition dating back to P. J. Carlesimo — it all helps.

Bobby, how are you similar or dissimilar to Dan in your approach to recruiting?

Bobby: I'm learning a lot from Danny, being here the first couple of weeks. I think I know the game very well. As an assistant coach you have to be different than the head coach. At times I'm going to pick the guys up as Danny beats them down [laughs]. But it's a process where you can work off each other.

Dan, what's it like having your older brother on staff?

Dan: To have a former player who accomplished what he accomplished brings a credibility in terms of player development, in terms of recruiting and trying to get your foot in the door. When you're putting together a staff, you're looking for guys who can be loyal, hard-working, and guys you can trust. And he's obviously all those things. Just like myself, he had the chance to grow up around a Hall of Fame coach, absorbing all of the details and the philosophies of coaching from our dad.

Describe the influence your father has had on you in your career.

Dan: I didn't realize how great a coach he was until I got to Rutgers. I had this impression that the greatest coaches were college basketball coaches. I compared him to what I was seeing at the Big East level, and he was as good or better than everyone. To have the



opportunity to absorb the game from him, that's something you can't put a price tag on.

Bobby: His record speaks for itself, and all of the kids whose lives he's impacted. In this position, I take that very seriously. I'm working with kids who are beginning to become young men, and I hope to be a good example for them, to help develop them and be a part of their lives. And that's something my dad has always done. Secondly, he's just a tremendous worker. He's always around the game, he's always in the gym, and the kids can count on him. That's who I want to be.

A lot has been made of your father going to the Hall of Fame. Talk about the reaction that he and other family members had to your becoming a Division I head coach

Dan: I think they're incredibly excited. I don't think that my dad would have thought I was reaching my full potential if I remained a high school coach for 35 years. He always wanted more for me, and I know he feels the same about Bobby. He believes in both of us and our abilities to become successful Division I head coaches. From that standpoint, I think he's more excited for our situation here at Wagner than he was for himself with the Hall of Fame. ... What's also very exciting to [my parents] is that all of their grandchildren are living in New Jersey. I know that fills their hearts with a lot of joy.

For more of this interview, visit www.wagner.edu/wagnermagazine.

the A List

Water polo goalie **Kelsey Rodgers '10** led the nation with 472 saves this season. She was named MAAC Defensive Player of the Year, and Head Coach **Pat Beemer** was named the Anaconda Sports MAAC Coach of the Year. • The **Wagner College dance team** finished 10th at the College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championship in January. Held in Orlando, Florida, the event featured 27 of the top college teams in the country. • In April, new school records were set in track and field: **Thomas Iannacone '12** in the 3,000 m (8:36.35), and rookie **Sheena Taylor '12** in the shot put (12.89 m). • **Jessica Hart '10** was again named NEC Winter Scholar-Athlete of the Year. At the NEC Swimming & Diving Championships in February, she won the 100 butterfly, took second in the 200 butterfly, and was part of four medal-winning relay teams. She graduated with a 3.54 GPA in business administration. • **Vin Avella '10** ended his baseball career at Wagner as the home run king, with 48 homers during his four years with the Seahawks. He was named to the 2010 NEC All-Tournament team.

Putting WAGNER first

Newsletter of The Campaign for Wagner College

In This Issue:

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Celebrating Success

CAMPAIGN PROFILE

Elisabeth Cardiello '06 M'07

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

*Violeta Capric '12 and
Medije Mashkulli '11*

The Putting Wagner First Campaign: *Celebrating success and looking to the next phase in Wagner's development*

In March, the College officially announced reaching the fundraising goal of \$50 million in the Putting Wagner First campaign, barely two and a half years after its public launch. President Guarasci and campaign supporters rang the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange on March 23 to celebrate this milestone (see page 6 for more on this event).

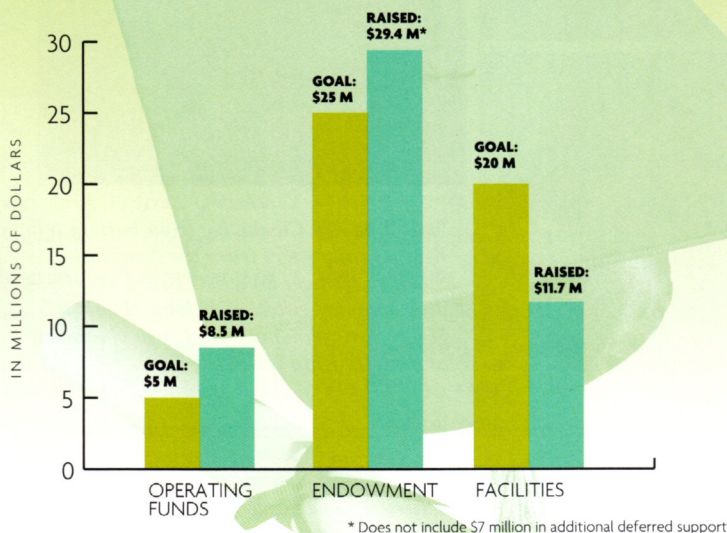
Through Putting Wagner First, the College has raised:

- \$8.5 million in operating support (\$3.5 million over goal),
- \$29.4 million in endowment support (\$4.4 million over goal),
- \$11.7 million in facilities support (\$8.3 million short of the goal),
- an additional \$7 million in deferred support.

These generous commitments have helped:

- Increase the College's endowment to more than \$50 million;
- Create more than 20 endowed scholarships;
- Provide more than a dozen funds for faculty professional development and research;
- Construct Foundation Hall, Wagner's first new residence hall in 40 years; and
- Earn the College multiple accolades, such as the Number One "Up and Coming" school in the Northeast (*U.S. News & World Report*) and the Hesburgh Award for Best First-Year Program (TIAA-CREF), in addition to awards for its innovative curriculum, technology in the classroom, and commitment to civic engagement.

Campaign Update: Celebrating Success



(SEE 'CAMPAIGN UPDATE CONTINUED' ON NEXT PAGE)



Wagner *Putting* first

Campaign Executive Committee Members

John H. Myers, Co-Chair
ALUMNUS '67 H'02

Robert C. O'Brien, Co-Chair
ALUMNUS '66 H'95,
LIFETIME TRUSTEE

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EVELYN '49 H'92
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Howard Braren
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ALUMNA '68, TRUSTEE

Warren R. Procci
ALUMNUS '68, TRUSTEE

(CAMPAIGN UPDATE CONTINUED)

One major component of the original set of goals remains significantly underfunded: the construction of a new academic building — the first since Megerle Science Hall was built in 1968 — on the site of the former Augustinian Academy.

In order to fulfill our mission, uphold our standards, and remain competitive among our peer institutions, it is imperative to have a high-tech, high-touch, interdisciplinary academic building dedicated to teaching and learning in the 21st century and capitalizing on

cutting-edge technologies.

In order to raise an additional \$25 million to construct this new academic building (a generous \$10 million lead gift is already in hand), the Wagner College Board of Trustees has approved an extension of the campaign. While there is never a shortage of pressing campus needs, this new building is critical to Wagner's future success and ability to continue to attract the best and brightest students.

Wagner Magazine will continue to keep you informed about this important effort.

SHOW OF SUPPORT Alumni and friends gathered to celebrate the College's fundraising success after President Guarasci rang the New York Stock Exchange closing bell on March 23.



TOAST TO WAGNER Clockwise from bottom left: Wagner supporters leave the New York Stock Exchange; Robert O'Brien '66 H'95 and Andrew Cortese '72; John Myers '67 H'02; Siena Sinopoli '10, Carin Guarasci, and Aletta Kipp Diamond '65.

PHOTOGRAPHS: LEE MANCHESTER

WAGNER FACT: Certain kinds of planned gifts allow you to invest in Wagner's future and produce a lifetime income for yourself and a beneficiary. Call Frank Young, director of major gifts, at 718-420-4494 for more information.





CAMPAIGN PROFILE:

Elisabeth Cardiello '06 M'07
Motivated to Do More

For a restless dreamer like Elisabeth Cardiello, Wagner College turned out to be the perfect match.

"I never knew what I wanted to do 'when I grew up,'" she says. "So, at Wagner I got involved in everything — from Division I soccer to the Honors Program, and everything in between."

Not only did Wagner allow her to fulfill long-held dreams, like studying in Italy on a DaVinci Society

travel scholarship, but it also instilled new aspirations and opened new doors.

For example, the international business major recalls a unique undergraduate art course: an independent study entitled "Urban Landscapes," created for her by her professor to allow her to sketch scenes from Wagner's campus and New York City. "Incorporating Manhattan into the framework of a class isn't uncommon," she says, "and neither is finding

a professor who's willing to fuel your passions."

Professor Donald Crooks '69 M'72, director of graduate business programs, inspired her to take on another new challenge: becoming a member of the first class in Wagner's Accelerated MBA program, which takes freshly minted bachelor's-degree graduates through a whirlwind year of management studies.

Today, she works in marketing for Protégé Partners LLC, a \$3.4 billion asset-management firm in Manhattan, and is laying the foundation for an

entrepreneurial venture of her own.

"Wagner's atmosphere motivates students to want to do more in their studies and in their lives," says Cardiello, a member of the First Decade Society, Wagner's leadership giving group for young alumni. Cardiello also recently joined the board of the National Alumni Association.

"From graduating summa cum laude, to serving as president of the ODK national leadership honor society, to starting a support fund to benefit the family of one of the 'Lost Boys' of Sudan, a friend and classmate, I always wanted to do more and give more."

THE FIRST DECADE SOCIETY

Alumni in their first 10 years out of college are eligible to join the First Decade Society. Members are recognized in the Wagner College Annual Report and invited to exclusive activities, including presidential receptions and alumni networking events. For more information, please contact Kristen Koehler, director of development, at 718-390-3304 or kristen.koehler@wagner.edu.

WAGNER FACT: Wagner's Accelerated 12-month MBA program minimizes time spent out of the job market.



On the Cutting Edge of Science

Johns Hopkins Research Interns

This summer, Violeta Capric '12 and Medije Mashkulli '11 (pictured below) are learning from some of the world's best medical researchers and contributing to cutting-edge scientific advancements.

Capric and Mashkulli were selected for research internships at Johns Hopkins University through the Wagner/Johns Hopkins/Spiro Partnership.

Established in 2006 through a gift from the Evelyn and Donald Spiro Foundation, this unique program allows Wagner biology students to engage in biomedical research, and nursing students to gain clinical experience, at Johns Hopkins University and its renowned hospital. Twenty-nine students have participated since the program's inception. This year's nursing interns are rising seniors Emily Werkheiser, Karen Vitkus, Nicole Dmitra, and Vanessa Pettito.

Donald '49 H'88 and Evelyn Lindfors '49 H'92 Spiro created this program after meeting Johns Hopkins researchers and seeing their dedication, and experiencing the high quality of health care offered at Johns Hopkins Hospital. They are just as excited about this door of opportunity as the students are. "I think the program is all pluses for Wagner," says Donald.



PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN EMERSON





AlumniLink

Events, opportunities, and celebrations for the Wagner family, both near and far

Meet Ken Lam

New York native is a big fan of the Wagner Plan

After 13 years in Western New York, Kenneth Lam has come back home to New York City to serve as director of alumni relations at Wagner College.

Lam is a graduate of the University at Buffalo, where he also began his career in higher education administration. His roots, however, are in New York City, where his parents came in the late 1960s from their native China. Lam and his four sisters were all born at St. Vincent's Hospital in Manhattan and grew up in Queens.



Lam brings to Wagner four years of experience in working with Buffalo's 200,000-member alumni body. Lam holds a

master's degree in higher education administration from Buffalo, where he is working on a doctorate as well.

Since coming to Wagner in February, Lam says that he has been struck by the warmth and hospitality of Wagner alumni. "Only a week after I started my job, Rita [King, president of the National Alumni Association Board] invited me to her house," he says. "The alumni are genuine, real down-to-earth people."

The Wagner Plan curriculum was one of the factors that attracted Lam to Grymes Hill. "As someone in higher education, I thought, 'Wow, this is amazing.' It's a program that provides the ideal learning environment for students."

Lam believes that alumni can and should be intimately involved in supporting the College's overall goals. "I'm a big believer in college education," he says. "I enjoy alumni relations because it can strengthen the institution and help students achieve their goals."

If He Could Go Anywhere in the World

While working in alumni relations for the University at Buffalo, Ken Lam traveled extensively to support alumni association chapters domestically and abroad. What are his favorite places to visit?

Southern California "For its great weather and picturesque views."

Toronto, Ontario, Canada "For its diversity of people, cultural attractions, and hospitality."

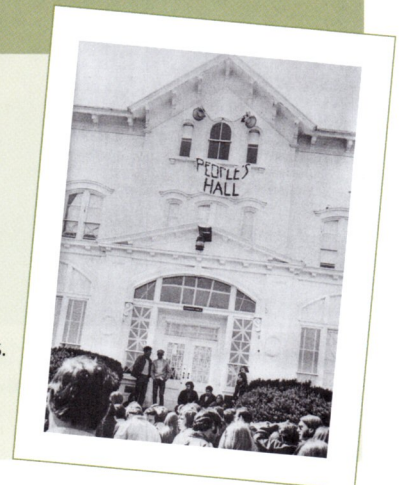
Washington, D.C. "I get chills every time I fly into the D.C.-area airports and get to see all the sights from the air, like the White House, Washington Monument, Capitol Building, etc., and think about all the history that happens here."

{ FLASHBACK }

CUNARD HALL, APRIL 1970

In April 1970, about 90 Wagner student activists entered Cunard Hall late at night and began a two-day occupation of the building. One of several student protests that occurred at Wagner in the late 1960s and early '70s, this one was focused on minority concerns.

A commemorative symposium on April 10 of this year brought many alumni back to campus.



Upcoming Events**Admissions**

- Campus Visit Days
Aug. 10, Oct. 3, Oct. 17,
& Nov. 13

Band & Choir

- Italian Idol Singing Contest
Oct. 14, 1 p.m., Campus Hall
- Viva Italia! Finale Concert
Oct. 30, 4 p.m., Campus Hall
- Fall Choral Concert
Nov. 7, 4 p.m., Trinity
Lutheran Church,
Staten Island
- Wagner College Jazz Ensemble
Nov. 21, 3 p.m., Main Hall

- Holiday Choral Concert
Dec. 5, 4 p.m., Trinity
Lutheran Church, Staten
Island

- Wagner College Concert Band
Dec. 12, 3 p.m., Main Hall

National Alumni Association

- Alumni Night with the
Staten Island Yankees
July 24, 7 p.m.
- Bus Trip to the Wagner v.
Georgetown Football Game
October 9
- Homecoming
October 23

Visit www.wagner.edu/alumni to find out about more summer and fall upcoming events.

Theater**Main Stage Season**

- Rodgers & Hammerstein's
Cinderella
Oct. 6–17
 - William Finn's *The 25th
Annual Putnam County
Spelling Bee*
Nov. 17–Dec. 5
 - *Smokey Joe's Café: The Songs of
Leiber and Stoller*
Feb. 23–March 6
 - Ahren's & Flaherty's
Seussical, The Musical
April 13–May 1
- Stage One Season
- Lanford Wilson's *Burn This*
Oct. 12–17

- Shakespeare's *A Midsummer
Night's Dream*
Nov. 30–Dec. 5
- Theresa Rebeck's *Loose Knit*
March 1–6
- The Dance Project
April 26–May 1

Dates are subject to change.

**For more information, registration, and tickets:**

Admissions 800-221-1010 or 718-390-3411 • Alumni Relations 718-390-3224 •

Music Department 718-390-3313 • Theater Box Office 718-390-3259

Reunion 2010

GOLDEN YEARS On Reunion Weekend, June 3–6, the class of 1960 was inducted into the ranks of the Golden Seahawks.



SO GOOD TO SEE YOU Deana Becker Petty '60 embraces Joan Frediani Rener '60 at the president's welcome reception on Friday, June 4.

'You're Hired!'

Help students connect to careers

The Center for Academic and Career Development seeks alumni, parents, and friends to participate in a variety of events and mentoring relationships that will help Wagner students develop in their professional lives. Your level of involvement can be customized to fit your schedule. These events are open to alumni participants as well. During the fall 2010 semester, the CACD is looking for help with these events (dinner is served at 6 p.m. before all 7 p.m. events):

Brewing Success

2–5 p.m. on September 9 and October 7; 4–7 p.m. on November 4
Come back to Wagner for coffee or tea and informal career-focused conversations with students.

Alumni Speaker Series

7 p.m. on September 29, October 20, and December 1
Join with other alumni for a panel presentation on successful ways to navigate your career, family, and community responsibilities.

Contact Victoria Crispo '00 M'02, assistant director of career development, at vcrispo@wagner.edu or 718-420-4016 for more details.

Federal Opportunities Week: Internships, Fellowships, and Employment

7 p.m. on October 4–8

Have you enjoyed a career with the federal government? Share your expertise with our students and faculty.

Mock Interviews

7 p.m. on October 5 and November 4

Networking Reception

7 p.m. on October 7

Interview the Interviewer Panel

7 p.m. on October 13 and November 10

Seeking alumni, parents, and friends who have hiring or recruiting responsibilities to talk about effective interviewing.

The CACD is also seeking professionals in the following areas who would like to share their expertise with current students: art, arts management, museums, and cultural organizations.

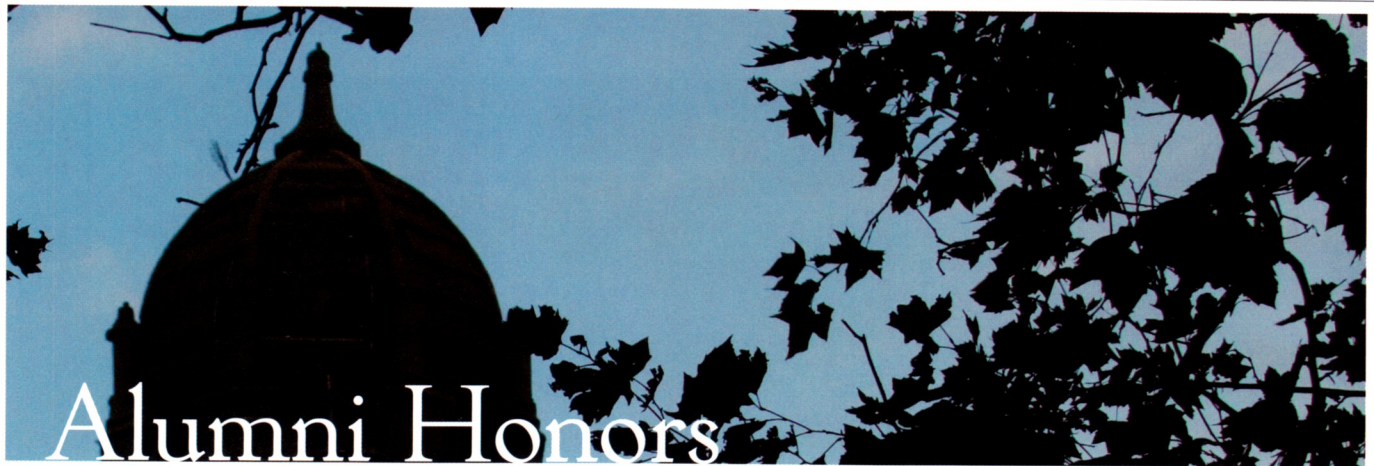


ZUM WOHL Bob and Betsy Ebers '58 Press and Pete '60 and Judy Warr '61 Welker dressed for the occasion: the Oktoberfest-themed dinner-dance on Saturday, June 5.

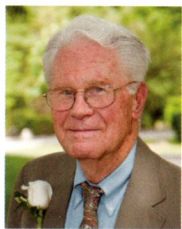


ALL SMILES Nicole Brodeur '06, Ashley Paskalis '06, and Bridget Herrmann '05 enjoy the Saturday evening cocktail hour on the Union Patio.

PHOTOGRAPHS: VINNIE AMESSÉ



At the annual reunion luncheon in June, the National Alumni Association honored seven alumni, one posthumously.



Dr. Norman E. Schaefer '49 was named the John "Bunny" Barbes '39 and Lila T. Barbes '40 Wagner Alumni Laureate

for his very long and distinguished service to the College, as a founder and longtime member of the National Alumni Association. He also pursued two very long and distinguished careers: as a head and neck surgeon, specializing in surgeries that restored hearing to those suffering from otosclerosis; and as an officer in the Army Air Force and Air Force Reserve. After an amazing total of 49 years of service, he retired as a colonel and senior flight surgeon in 1992.

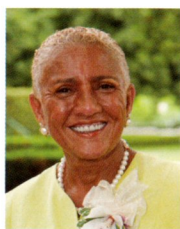


The Kevin Sheehy '67 M'70 M'92 Alumni Leadership Medal was awarded to **Bruce Liozzi '64**, past president of the National Alumni Association, DaVinci Society program chair, Delta Nu activity

committee co-chair, member of Wagner's Hall of Fame Committee, and founding member and officer of the Hardwood Club.



Lisa De Respino Bennett '85 was honored with the **Wagner Alumni Key** for her service to the College. Now a vice president for communications at J. P. Morgan Chase, she has worked in admissions and alumni relations for Wagner, and has served as president of the National Alumni Association board and co-chair of Friends of the Theatre.



The Distinguished Graduate of Wagner award went to **Sharon Ivey Richie-Melvan '71**, who has been one of Wagner College's finest leaders, beginning with her election in 1969 as Wagner's first African-

American homecoming queen. Richie-Melvan served for 25 years in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, rising to the rank of full colonel. The first military nurse to become a White House Fellow, Richie-Melvan served a stint as the Army's chief nursing recruiter. One of the nation's top retired officers, she serves on the board of the Military Officers Association of America. She earned a Ph.D. in organizational behavior from George Washington University and now works as a consultant.



The Reverend Lyle Guttu Award posthumously recognized **Rev. David Gaise '35**, who passed away last year, for his spiritual contributions to his community. Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran in

Kingston, New York, for 30 years, pastor emeritus for 32 years more, Gaise also served his community through leadership in churches, schools, and health care. He served his alma mater, too, both as a trustee from 1956 through 1970 and as synod archivist from 1977 to 1987. Although he retired from full-time church ministry, he never stopped being a pastor, caring for those around him and enriching their lives with his good humor and understanding.

The NAA named two Wagner Alumni Fellows, who have built distinguished careers in defined aspects of the College's academic program.



Sally Reibel Maertens '60, **Wagner Alumni Fellow in Education**, has been a lifelong leader in education, especially in environmental education, both in Putnam County, New York, and in her

current home of Woodland Park, Colorado. Last year, the National Park Service named her the top individual volunteer of the year for spearheading the organization of the "No Child Left Inside" weekend in the Pikes Peak Region in 2008, providing opportunities for youth and families to learn about the region's natural heritage.

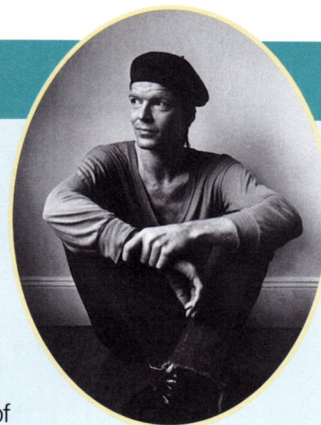
Wagner finance major Robert Mazur '72, **Wagner Alumni Fellow in Business**,

had a remarkable career in the federal government. His self-sacrificing undercover work was instrumental in the arrest and conviction of major international drug dealers and the unscrupulous bankers who supported this criminal activity. Read much more about his extraordinary work in the cover story of this issue of *Wagner Magazine*.



Who in the Wagner World Was ... Jim Carroll?

When James Dennis Carroll (1949–2009) enrolled at Wagner College in 1968, he had already achieved an unusual degree of notoriety. Besides publishing his first book of verse, *Organic Trains*, at age 16, Carroll had already penned the journals for which he is perhaps best remembered, *The Basketball Diaries*. Covering his teen years in New York from 1963 to 1966, they were published in part in *The Paris Review* in 1969, and in book form in 1978. (*The Basketball Diaries* was made into a movie starring Leonardo DiCaprio in 1995.) In the late 1960s and early '70s in Manhattan, he became an associate of the likes of Allen Ginsburg, Patti Smith, Andy Warhol, and Robert Mapplethorpe. In the 1980s, he took a turn as punk rock star, leading the Jim Carroll Band and releasing three influential albums.



But back in 1968, on the cusp of a life of fame and influence, Carroll signed up for the standard lineup of freshman courses at Wagner College – English, French, psych, art history, phys ed. He completed none of them. Yet Carroll's brief sojourn on Grymes Hill warranted a mention in the *Times* obituary.

In search of more information, *Wagner Magazine* contacted Cassie Carter, the eloquent webmaster of catholicboy.com. She reached out to Robert Catenaccio, whose friendship with Jim Carroll dates back to their days at Trinity School in Manhattan, where Carroll lived the double life portrayed in *The Basketball Diaries*: top student and star basketball player, and also heroin addict.

"Wagner was ... a long ferry ride farther downtown than any poet since Whitman wanted to go," Catenaccio observes. Yet not only did Carroll make that trip, but "he even showed up at the gym for basketball tryouts," recalls Catenaccio. "He was put on the second team, with the other walk-ons, and in the scrimmage he got hot and hit a million shots. Even though he didn't show up for the rest of the week, his name was posted with the others on the board: he'd made the team. Maybe someone had checked him out, or remembered who he used to be. A few weeks later, he left school for good."

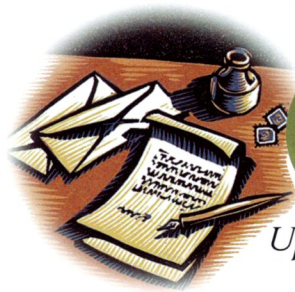
Have an idea for "Who in the Wagner World Was ..."? Contact Editor Laura Barlament at laura.barlament@wagner.edu or 718-390-3147.

New & Noteworthy

Colleen A. F. Venable '02 *Guinea Pig, Pet Shop Private Eye, Book 1: Hamster and Cheese*, with art by Stephanie Yue (Graphic Universe, 2010)

Colleen A. F. Venable's first book is the first installment in a planned series of six graphic novels for children. It stars a crotchety guinea pig named Sasspants and a hyperactive hamster named Hamisher, who pushes the bookish pig into crime-solving when the "g" falls off Sasspants's pet shop sign, transforming "GUINEA PIG" to "GUINEA PI." "Venable's story succeeds because of unique characters, a creative setting, and sharp humor," says *School Library Journal*. A double major in studio art and English at Wagner who wrote and produced her own play for her senior thesis, Venable designs books for First Second Books, another graphic novel publisher. Her next project will be a longer teen graphic novel, slated for publication by First Second Books. Learn more about Venable at www.colleenaf.com.





ClassNotes

Updates from old friends across the generations

1939

Class Agent: **John D. Barbes**
85 Cloverdale Ave., Staten Island,
NY 10308, 718-984-8547

1942

Class Agent: **Theodore W. Gibson**
2017 Pine Knoll Road #2, Walnut
Creek, CA 94595, 925-588-9691

1948

Claire Mintzer Fagin '48 H'93 received another honorary degree this May, this time from Syracuse University. Her many achievements include serving as dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania from 1977 to 1982, during which time the school rose to No. 1 rankings in *U.S. News & World Report* and in federal funding. She also served as interim president of Penn in 1993-94. She is now a board member of the Visiting Nurse Service of New York and the National Senior Citizen Law Center, as well as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the Expert Panel on Nursing of the World Health Organization, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

1950

Class Agent: **Robert S. Peirano**
67 Meisner Ave., Staten Island,
NY 10306, 718-351-8535

David Greer regrets that he was unable to attend the class's 60th reunion because of the funeral of his sister-in-law, Roberta Greer, held that Saturday in Hilton Head, S.C. In a previous issue of *Wagner Magazine*, we announced that this world traveler had planned to visit Kenya and Tanzania for his 80th birthday last October. He decided against that trip because travel advisories had been issued for those countries. Instead, he took a 20-day tour of the Mediterranean. Highlights for him included seeing the Gaudi church in Barcelona, Spain; visiting Carthage, Tunisia; and spending four days in Rome.

1952

Class Notes Liaison: **Fred Brockmann**
3949 Wilshire Court, Sarasota,
FL 34238, 941-922-1879,
fredleebrock@comcast.net

Fred Brockmann '52 M'54 and **Lee Schriever Brockmann** '53 are the proud parents of Suzanne Brockmann, who is a *New York Times* best selling author of 49 novels. She wrote and directed a comedy

with dance, *Looking for Billy Haines*, which ran from March 11 to May 22 at the Lion Theatre on Manhattan's Theater Row. The play is about a struggling New York City actor who auditions for a feature film about Billy Haines, a real-life gay movie star of the 1920s and '30s. **George E. Handley** received the 2010 Alumnus/a Award for Distinguished Service from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. He is a 1956 graduate of the seminary. He was cited for his service to parish ministry and to the church at large; his commitment to urban, especially multi-cultural, ministry; his service as administrative assistant to the Bishop of the Virginia Synod, LCA, and as first ELCA Region 7 (Northeast) coordinator; and his leadership as president of the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Archives Center in Philadelphia.

1953

Class Agent: **Albert Tosi** 70 Woodcliff
Lake Road, Saddle River, NJ 07458

1954

Class Agent: **Manfred W. Lichtmann**
3112 Lahinch Drive, Myrtle
Beach, SC 29579, 843-903-5715,
del1258@peoplepc.com

Wanda Schweizer Praisner '54 M'57 has completed her third book of poetry, *Where the Dead Are*, which has been accepted by CavanKerry Press. In June, she was inducted into Staten Island's Curtis High School Hall of Fame.

1955

Class Agent: **Allan K. Brier** 67 Round
Cove Road, Chatham, MA 02633,
508-945-3729

Bonnie Battey has written several books about nursing, ethics, communication, and spiritual care. She holds degrees in nursing from Vanderbilt University as well as from Wagner College, and she earned a Ph.D. in speech communication and human relations from the University of Kansas, Lawrence. She has been a professor and administrator at several universities and has created many courses and workshops in nursing, communication, spiritual assessment, leadership, and team building. She lives in Antioch, Calif. You can find out more about her work at www.bwbatteyconsult.com.

1956

Class Agent: **George E. Lewis**
5043 Kelsie Court, Florence,
OR 97439, mrclor@charter.net

Keep in Touch!

E-mail: alumni@wagner.edu

Web: www.wagner.edu/alumni/

Mail: Alumni Office, Reynolds House,

Wagner College, 1 Campus Road,

Staten Island, NY 10301

Publication policies:

Deadlines: This issue reflects news received by May 15. The submission deadline for the fall 2010 issue is September 3.
Content: *Wagner* welcomes your news and updates, and we will happily share them with the Wagner family. We ask that you send us announcements of weddings, births, and graduations after the fact.

Photos: We accept photos of Wagner groups at weddings and other special events. With the photo, send the names and

class years of all alumni pictured; birth date, parents' names, and class years with photos of children; and dates and locations of all events.

Photo Quality: Digital and print photos must be clear and of good quality. Prints should be on glossy paper with no surface texture; they will be returned at your request (please attach your address to the photo). Digital photos must be jpegs of at least 250 pixels per inch; low-resolution photos converted to a higher resolution are not acceptable.

Norma Rosa Maratea and her husband, Anthony, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 8, 2009. Both she and Anthony taught in Staten Island schools for many years: She taught at New Dorp High School before her marriage, and then returned to the classroom from 1979 to 1992 at Notre Dame Academy High School. Anthony served as a history teacher at McKee High School for 33 years. The two enjoy gardening, have traveled to Europe, and their six children have provided them with 13 grandchildren.

1957

Class Agents: **Marie Attonito Alberti** 109 Patio Drive, Endwell, NY 13760, 607-754-3400 **Ewald Forsbrey** 1096 Augusta Falls Way, Naples, FL 34119, 239-353-6240

Kathrynne Tracy Forsbrey traveled to India in January to study yoga with a yoga master in Udaipur. She was certified as a yoga instructor in 2000 and as an aquatics instructor in 2008. She teaches at the YMCA in Randolph, N.J. Her professional experience was in fundraising, having served as director of the New York chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

1958

Class Agent: **H. Milton Keen** 10581 Lees Mill Road, Warrenton, VA 20186, mk10581@gmail.com

Patrick R. Sbarra sent us this photo from Veterans Day, November 11, 2009. "Not bad for 81 — HA!" was his comment. He is a veteran of the Korean War.



1960

Class Agent: **Peter Welker** P.O. Box 485, Caroga Lake, NY 12032, 518-835-3198, pwelker@nycap.rr.com

Fit to Be Tied

Drew Babitts '03 M'06, major gifts officer for Wagner College, married Erin Smith on September 9, 2009, in Staten Island. Many Wagner alumni and faculty were in attendance. Back row: Rev. Richard Michael, Wagner chaplain, and his wife, Bonnie Michael; John Yetto; **Frank Cafasso '00**; **Theresa Barilli '10**; **John Orecchia '04**; **Drew Babitts**; **Jason Westerlund '02**; Erin Smith Babitts; **Mike Pedersen '02**; **Pam Pryor Pedersen '03**; **John Goodison '09**; **Michelle Ponitero '09**. Front row: Eileen Archer, administrative assistant for major gifts; **Kara McGann '07**; **Gail Kelley '97**; Kristen Krista, major gifts officer; and Frank Young, director of major gifts, across the front.



1961

Class Agent: **Alma Costie Vincent** 3115 Stowe Lane, Mahwah, NJ 07430, 201-760-2703

Sunki Choe is proud to announce that his son Ken was appointed by the White House as deputy general counsel for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, specializing in Medicare and Medicaid, health care technology, and health care reform. "Given the ongoing debate on health care reform, it's a great honor for Ken personally and for us as a family," writes Sunki. He and his wife, Hyun Joo "Judy" Choe, also have two other children — Jennifer, who lives in Washington, and Jonathan, who lives in California — as well as four grandchildren.

1963

Class Agent: **John Donovan** 141-A Main Street, Tuckahoe, NY 10707

1964

Class Agent: **Donald T. Savage** 1130 Morningside Ave., Schenectady, NY 12309, 518-372-9422, bsavage@prudentialmanor.com

John Dreslin conducted the Connecticut Gilbert and Sullivan Society's production of *Pirates of Penzance* last November. He has been music director of this ensemble for 20 seasons. While practicing dentistry part time, he is also the organist for the Union Baptist Church in Mystic, Conn., and a trustee of the Thames Valley Music School in New London. He and his wife, Monika, live in Stonington, Conn. They have six grandchildren.

1965

Class Agent: **Jack Felver** 84 North Smith Street, Palatine, IL 60067; 25244 Pelican Creek Circle, Unit 201, Bonita Springs, FL 34134; 239-495-8861, jrfelver@aol.com

Jack Felver sent us this photo, taken in January, of three Wagner alumni who met playing in the Collier County Senior Softball League in Naples, Fla. Pictured left to right, they are **Bob Schreyer '69**, Jack, and **Don Howard '62**.



1966

Class Agent: **Gerry Magliocca** 36 Cleveland Ave., East Brunswick, NJ 08816, 732-723-1657, gerrymaglio@aol.com

Michael Kelly '66 M'72, a member of the Wagner College Board of Trustees, was a sponsor (along with President Guarasci and Provost Lieberman) of a symposium held on the Wagner campus on April 10, entitled Reflections on a Year of Student Activism 1969–1970: The Seeds of Change. Because of illness he was not able to attend, but the event drew about 80 alumni, students, and other Wagner community members to reflect on that momentous year. **Lonnie Brandon Jr. '72** was also instrumental in organizing the event, and he was part of a panel of speakers that also included **Milfred Fierce '60**, **Sharon Ivey Richie-Melvan '71**, **Philip Straniere '69 M'73**, along with Margaret Burnham, professor of law at Northeastern University School of Law; Ruta Shah-Gordon, dean of campus life; and Curtis Wright, assistant dean of campus life.

1967

Class Agent: **Maureen L. Robinson** 160 Jockey Hollow Road, Bernardsville, NJ 07924-1312, 908-953-2939, mrobidwolf@aol.com



A Colossal Feeling

Elisabeth Cardiello '06 M'07 ran her first marathon on March 21 – in Rome, Italy. She trained and ran with two friends from her soccer team at Chelsea Piers. “I’d been saying for a couple years that I really wanted to run [a marathon],” she says. “When [my friend] mentioned Rome, I jumped. I figured that you can’t get

better than that – a marathon in a country where every step you take, you feel like you’re walking on history, and there is so much to keep your senses occupied while you’re running for hours on end. ... The last mile was like a movie – when else will you lap the Colosseum?”

1968

Class Agent: **Richard W. Ball** 13 Jeffro Drive, Ridgefield, CT 06877, 203-431-6062, richard.ball@ubs.com

1969

Class Agent: **Philip Straniere** 3 St. Austins Place, Staten Island, NY 10310, 718-447-4717, judgephil96@aol.com

1970

Class Agent: **Gregory Gulbrandsen** 2184 NE Meadow Lane, Bend, OR 97701, 541-280-3035, greg@cascacreative.com

1971

Class Agents: **Pamela Broderick** P.O. Box 564, Winter Harbor, ME 04693 **Kathy Chinnici O'Donnell** 3322 Woodland Drive, Tobyhanna, PA 18466, 570-894-4731, katcod0221@yahoo.com

Sharon Ivey Richie-Melvan's book *Angel Walk*, previewed in the fall 2009 issue of *Wagner Magazine*, was published on April 1. According to the publisher, Arnica Publishing, “*Angel Walk* reveals the untold

stories of the men and women who have fought for the lives of those wounded on the battlefield, Army Nurse Corps (ANC) officers. It provides a unique perspective into the hearts and minds of these caretakers; sheds light on their experiences, trials, and tribulations; and describes the lifestyle and living accommodations of these nurses and their patients.” Sharon co-authored the book with Dr. Diane Vines. Sharon was on campus twice this spring: She was part of the panel presentation Reflections on a Year of Student Activism 1969–1970: The Seeds of Change, on April 10; and she returned again to accept the Distinguished Alumna Award from the National Alumni Association at Wagner Reunion on June 5.

1973

Class Agent: **Henry E. Gemino** 5 Strickland Place, Manhasset, NY 11030, 516-467-4191, pipe.ny@prodigy.net

1974

Class Agent: **Diane “Nina” R. Recio** 11 Holly Place, Larchmont, NY 10538, 914-833-0202, nrc917@gmail.com

1975

Class Agents: **Richard G. DePaul** 8 McKay Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807, 908-218-1418 **Patricia Martin** 1341 NE Market Dr., Apt. 355, Fairview, OR 97024, pattym.phd@comcast.net

Barbara Barinque serves as the office manager for her husband, Dr. Jean Barinque, who is a dentist. They live in Massapequa Park, N.Y. They have one daughter, also a dentist, and two grandchildren. They love to travel (their last trip was a castle tour of Ireland) and take a cruise every year with family. They celebrated their 40th anniversary cruising Alaska. **Edward Johnson**, director of science at the Staten Island Museum, was featured in a December 2009 *Staten Island Advance* article about the Christmas Bird Count (CBC), a volunteer effort organized by the National Audubon Society to count bird populations in North and South America. Edward has been part of Staten Island’s CBC for 27 years. “As compiler of the local CBC for the last 20 years, he sets the territories, gets the teams and records weather conditions, time spent in the field, number of species, and number of birds,” according to the *Advance*. **Sheldon Schafer** is running for the 18th Congressional District seat (Peoria,

Ill., area) as the Green Party candidate. The election will be held in November. He is vice president and planetarium director of the Lakeview Museum of Arts and Sciences, and he also teaches astronomy at Bradley University in Peoria. He is a founder of the Peoria Area Green Party. He served as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in India in the early '70s and has done mission work in Haiti.

1976

Class Agent: **John M. Zawisny** 56 Howard Ave., Staten Island, NY 10301, 718-447-4290, jzawisny@aol.com

1977

Class Agent: **Jeanne Delaney-Malikian** 6 Walden Street, Somers, NY 10589

1978

Class Agent: **Maria Lind Jenkins** 31 Gower Road, New Canaan, CT 06840, 203-966-5999

1979

Class Agent: **Frank Valenti** 71 North Lakeside Ave., Jackson, NJ 08527, 732-942-0044, favalenti@msn.com

Victor Dolan, a Staten Island chiropractor, was chosen to provide medical care at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs in February and March of this year. Working mostly with athletes preparing for the 2012 Summer Games, he could be considered for future Olympic and other international assignments. He has been the volunteer team chiropractor for the Curtis High School football team for more than 20 years and is known for hosting a Staten Island Community Television program, *Good Health Naturally*, which aired an estimated 900 shows between 1992 and 2002. He was the first chief of chiropractic in a hospital in New York State, and he specializes in nutrition, pain

management, sports injuries, and fitness. **Ann Marie Stanger Henderson**, Esq., was promoted to associate vice president and deputy general counsel for legal and regulatory affairs at Staten Island University Hospital.

1980

Class Agents: **Edward L. Garlock** 132 Highland Drive, Bedford, PA 15522, 814-623-1124 **Billy K. Tyler** 1807 North Gramercy Place, Apt. 5, Los Angeles, CA 90028, 323-462-7111, billyktyler@aol.com

Michael Kornett M'80 was elected to the board of Samaritan Hospice in Marlton, N.J. He is the CEO of the Medical Society of New Jersey, based in Lawrenceville, the oldest professional society in the United States. **Joseph Raccuia** '80 M'87 has joined the boards of Glens Falls Hospital and of the Hyde Collection, an art museum and historic house, in Glens Falls, N.Y. He is president and CEO of Finch Paper LLC, and he lives in Wilton, N.Y., with his wife, Valerie, and their two children. **Billy Tyler** was a guest star on the TV series *Cold Case* on CBS on March 7. He also had a small role in an episode of *The Forgotten* on ABC in January.

1981

Class Agents: **Joan Sutera** 23 Lake Shore Drive, Rockaway, NY 07866, 908-901-8382, joan.sutera@pfizer.com **Lauretta Zitano** 2129 Locust Road, Sea Girt, NJ 08750, 732-449-4883

1982

Class Agent: **John Spadaro** 117 Old Town Road, Staten Island, NY 10304, 718-987-5073

Randy DeMeno and **Terri Naudzunus DeMeno** '85 are proud to see their two daughters following in their footsteps and enjoying athletic success, according to an article in the *Staten Island Advance*. Terri is a Wagner Hall of Famer in cross country and track and field, and Randy was a star baseball player for Tottenville High School and

Wagner. Their daughters, Brittanie and Lauren, are making a name for themselves in the world of gymnastics. Representing the American Gymnastics Academy, the sisters excelled at the New Jersey State Championships in March. Brittanie, age 17, level 10, and Lauren, age 12, level 9, both qualified for the regional championships in Virginia.

1983

Class Agents: **Donald T. Browne** 31 Tannery Hill Drive, Hamburg, NJ 07419, 973-827-4584, dbrowne100@aol.com **Linda Appignani Romani** 40008 N. Integrity Trail, Anthem, AZ 85086, 623-551-9136, momofdm@qwest.net

Alonzo Patterson was inducted into the Greater Utica Sports Hall of Fame in June. He was a two-sport standout at Utica Free Academy; went on to become a star offensive player for Wagner football, setting school records for rushing; and played professionally in the Canadian Football League and the United States Football League. He now lives in Byron, Ga., and works for the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice.

1985

Class Agents: **Annamarie Lambiasi** 1551 Arden Ave., Staten Island, NY 10312, 718-420-4163, alambias@wagner.edu **Andrew G. Williams** 30 Roberta Street, Apt. G, Key West, FL 33040

Sal D'Alessio was inducted into the Glen Ridge (N.J.) High School Athletic Hall of Fame in April. He was a football star for the Ridgers, playing both offense and defense, and then became a starting linebacker for four years at Wagner. **Keith Giglio** writes, "I have had a pretty fun career since graduating from Wagner. I am a screenwriter/producer in Hollywood. I also have worked as a narrative designer for video games." He teaches screenwriting and video game writing at UCLA Extension. **Terri Naudzunus DeMeno** and **Randy DeMeno** '82 are proud to see their two daughters following in their footsteps and

enjoying athletic success, according to an article in the *Staten Island Advance*. Terri is a Wagner Hall of Famer in cross country and track and field, and Randy was a star baseball player for Tottenville High School and Wagner. Their daughters, Brittanie and Lauren, are making a name for themselves in the world of gymnastics. Representing the American Gymnastics Academy, the sisters excelled at the New Jersey State Championships in March. Brittanie, age 17, level 10, and Lauren, age 12, level 9, both qualified for the regional championships in Virginia.

1986

Class Agent: **Wade C. Appelman** 6 Aaron Road, Lexington, MA 02421, 781-274-8575, wadeapp@yahoo.com

Matt Lenz, whose Broadway credits include *Hairspray* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, was director of Martin Casella's comedy *The Irish Curse* at the SoHo Playhouse, which ran from March 28 to May 30 and received many good reviews.

1987

Class Agents: **Meredith Lynch Acacia** 5 Aspen Court, Jackson, NJ 08527, 732-928-8452 **Karen McNeice** 54 Schley Ave., Staten Island, NY 10308, 718-356-7631, kbm1017@aol.com

Karen McNeice and Richard Merenda were married in Garfield, N.J., in February. Karen teaches at Totten Intermediate School in Tottenville, Staten Island, and Richard is a truancy coordinator with the Richmond County District Attorney's Office. **Vincent Spero** was appointed executive vice president and chief lending officer at Peapack-Gladstone Bank, where he will be responsible for directing the lending function and guiding overall lending strategy. This community bank, which he joined in June 2008 as senior vice president and senior commercial lender, provides products and services to businesses and residents of Hunterdon, Middlesex, Morris, Somerset, and Union counties, N.J.

1988

Class Agents: **Melissa Sorensen Faherty** 12 Chesebrough Street, Staten Island, NY 10312, 718-227-2099, m337j@aol.com **Kenneth Nilsen** 807 Castlepoint Terrace, Hoboken, NJ 07030, 201-222-0182, knilsen@stevens.edu

Wendy Liang M'88 is the founder and principal of the Beijing Chinese School in New York City. Established in 1997, it now has four branches and thousands of students. The school's purpose is to help students become bilingual in Chinese and English and to understand U.S. and Chinese culture. Weekend Chinese classes are the school's main focus, and it also offers an after-school program, art classes, and summer classes and tours of China. **Richard Negrin** was appointed in December 2009 to serve as interim executive director of the Board of Revision of Taxes for the City of Philadelphia. The Board of Revision of Taxes establishes real property values, which serve as the basis for real estate taxes levied by the City of Philadelphia. Richard's appointment came in the wake of a *Philadelphia Inquirer* exposé of rampant corruption and mismanagement at the BRT, which caused a huge public outcry. Mayor Michael Nutter appointed Richard, who has served on the Philadelphia Board of Ethics and is recognized as an outstanding lawyer and community leader, to begin the process of reforming this city agency. The City Council voted to abolish the BRT as of October, and Philadelphia voters approved this move in a ballot question during the May elections.

1990

Class Agent: **Levent Bayrasli** 72 Kyle Drive, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865, 908-213-9598, sonicbros@verizon.net

Christopher Krieger entered the political fray in his hometown of the past 13 years, Tega Cay, S.C. He ran for a seat on the Fort Mill (S.C.) School Board in the elections last November. It was a heated race, according to local media reports, and Christopher made a strong showing, even garnering the

Lorraine McNeill-Popper '78

Brands Worth Believing In

CLAIM TO FAME: After 30 years in advertising, Lorraine McNeill-Popper's thumbprint is everywhere: on Pepsi commercials with artists ranging from Michael Jackson to Wyclef Jean; on Life cereal's beloved "Mikey" campaign; on Spanish commercials for Gardasil, Merck's vaccine against human papillomavirus; on innovative anti-drug PSAs. Today, she is a principal and chief creative officer for PLUM Agency in Manhattan, and teaches at the Pratt Institute.

THE BELIEVER: Raised in Queens in a Lutheran family, McNeill-Popper became a theology major at Wagner. For her, the connection between theology and advertising lies in belief: Both are about "people's pursuit to put their faith in something," she says.

SPEAKING THEIR LANGUAGE: In 2007, the Partnership for a Drug-Free America approached McNeill-Popper to create the first anti-drug campaign targeted at urban youth. With a volunteer team of students and professional peers, she developed PSAs that use young people's voices and authentic scenarios. In "Huggin' the Block ... Hard," for example, a girl on a city street raps about a boy who is wasting his life getting high. In 2008, that spot was named Best National Multicultural Advertising Campaign for African-Americans by the Association of National Advertisers.

LEADERS WHO ROCK: If you returned your 2010 U.S. census form, perhaps McNeill-Popper influenced your decision. In one commercial, PLUM Agency created a beloved neighborhood matriarch, Miss Maybelle, who encourages everyone to follow her lead. Another spot, "Forward," targeted the youth audience with a catchy hip-hop music video.

THE REAL DEAL: McNeill-Popper's most recent work with PLUM Agency is an awareness campaign for the U.S. Marine Corps Special Operations Command (MARSOC), a super-select Marine unit started in 2006. Bent on authenticity, McNeill-Popper went on real MARSOC training missions to garner footage, sound, and images. She also used the troops' own photos, videos, music, and voiceovers. McNeill-Popper developed a tremendous respect for these Marines in the process. "This has been the most memorable and prized experience in my career," she says. "I feel honored and blessed to raise awareness of MARSOC."

View the commercials mentioned above by visiting www.wagner.edu/wagnermagazine.



endorsement of the *Rock Hill Herald*. In the end, he came up short in the four-person field. He is an information technology manager at the Bank of America, and he and his wife, Kathy, have two children. He has participated in many volunteer activities in the local schools.

1991

Class Agent: **Jennifer Norton Mantegna**
802 Schley Ave., Toms River, NJ
08755, 732-458-1412

Buddy Thomas's play *Devil Boys from Beyond* (produced at the 2009 New York International Fringe Festival; see the class notes sidebar in *Wagner Magazine* fall 2009) was nominated for the GLAAD award for Outstanding New York Theatre: Off-Off Broadway. GLAAD (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) Media Awards recognize and honor media for outstanding images of the LGBT community.

1992

Class Agent: **Natalie Migliaro** 510 Col. DB Kelley Way, South Amboy, NJ 08879, 732-721-6170, natmig@rci.rutgers.edu

Eddie '92 M'94 and **Wendy Esposito '93 M'95 Bennett** announce the birth of Edward Lawrence Jr. on November 21, 2008. See Crib Notes, page 43, for a photo.

1993

Class Agent: **Stuart Plotkin**
80 Knightsbridge Road #3F,
Great Neck, NY 11021,
SPlotkin@pclient.ml.com

Wendy Esposito Bennett '93 M'95 and **Eddie Bennett '92 M'94** announce the birth of Edward Lawrence Jr. on November 21, 2008. See Crib Notes, page 43, for a photo. **Pia Wilson's** plays have been seen on a number of stages this year, including the Red Room in Manhattan; the Gremlin Theatre in St. Paul, Minn.; Center Stage, N.Y.; and Classical Theatre of Harlem. **Toby Wyman M'93**, who was

Wagner Elementary

Meredith Leon '09 has completed her first year in the Teach for America program at Elm City College Prep in New Haven, Conn., where her classroom had a Wagner College theme and her fourth-grade students were known as Wagner Scholars.



the assistant general manager of business operations for the Atlanta Braves' Triple-A affiliate in Georgia, was named chief operating officer of the WNBA's Atlanta Dream in January. "I am looking forward to building a brand identity for the Atlanta Dream that captures the fun and excitement of competitive sports and one that creates a strong bond between the team and the City of Atlanta," he said in a press release.

1994

Class Agent: **James Hickey** 4209 Route 516, Matawan, NJ 07747, 732-290-3900, james.hickey@wagner.edu

Jessica Schwartz Bruschi was appointed vice president for youth and education for Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in Staten Island. In a *Staten Island Advance* feature on her, she spoke of her childhood memories of going to dances and field trips with other Jewish kids. She aims to create ways for children to increase their connection to Jewish community and identity.

1995

Class Agent: **Nancy L. Salgado-Cowan**
451 Walnut Street, Yonkers, NY
10701, nursenancy1@hotmail.com

1996

Class Agent: **Rebecca Ann Wallo Rose**
41481 NYS Rt. 180, Clayton, NY
13624, 315-778-8419,
harrypotter71674@yahoo.com

1997

Class Agent: **Alison N. Boyd** 14 Essex Drive, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779, 631-732-4032

Kirsten Rani Almeida is serving on the faculty of the 2010 Summer Acting Session of the Civic Theatre School, the Lehigh Valley's premier children's theater school. Kirsten has performed all over the eastern seaboard as well as in Saint Louis and Canada, and was recently seen in Civic Theatre's *Beauty and the Beast*. **Kathy Brier** is reported to have filmed scenes for a new HBO series, *Boardwalk Empire*, which is scheduled to air this fall. Kathy plays the legendary singer and actress Sophie Tucker in this historical drama about Atlantic City gangsters at the outset of Prohibition. **Mark Fileccia '97 M'00** and **Jacqueline Ligotti '03** were married on December 11 at St. Margaret Mary's Church in Midland Beach, Staten Island. Jacqueline is a first grade teacher at P.S. 41 in New Dorp, Staten Island, and Mark is a lieutenant with the New York City Fire Department. They live in Annadale, Staten Island. **Lisa Coppola Maher** and her husband, Dr. James Maher, welcomed their third daughter, Alexandra Riley, on September 9, 2009. Her sisters are Jordan (5) and Vanessa (2). The family lives on Staten Island. See Crib Notes, page 43, for a photo.

1998

Class Agents: **Tara Yeo Lagana** 11 Quimby Road, Turner, ME 04282,

207-713-4757, TLLagana@hotmail.com **Darren L. Greco** 24 Daniella Court, Staten Island, NY 10314, 718-761-6069, dgreco25@mac.com

1999

Class Agent: **Vinnie S. Potestivo** 2600 Palisade Ave., Apt. 3, Weehawken, NJ 07086, vinnie.p@wagner.edu

Vinnie Potestivo was featured on the cover of the *Staten Island Advance's* weekend entertainment section in April. He owns Vinnie Potestivo Entertainment, which has been growing by leaps and bounds. In the spring, he was casting for Bravo's reality TV hit, *Millionaire Matchmaker*, and for a new documentary series that will provide an in-depth look at the pregnancy process and what it means to be expecting for the very first time, from early stages to delivery. **Bill Valone '99 M'01** has opened his own independent insurance brokerage house. After finishing his MBA at Wagner, he pursued a career as a financial planner. Three years ago, he joined Independent Financial Solutions as head of management and sales. This year, **Nore' Di Biasi Setteducate** joined Bill at IFS, turning their friendship — which began on the first day of their first class at Wagner — into a successful business partnership. IFS specializes in financial planning using life insurance, 401K rollover, college savings, and retirement planning. IFS provides health and retirement benefits to corporations as well. More information can be found on the IFS website, www.ifsinc.info.

2000

Class Agent: **Erin K. Donahue**
5 Inverness Court, Wading River, NY
11792, edonahue45@optonline.net

Victoria Crispo '00 M'02, who is assistant director of career development at Wagner College, was selected for an Outstanding Member award by the Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers (EACE). The award was presented at the association's conference in April.

2001

Class Agent: **Simone Diaz** 1655 N. Colony Road, Unit 19, Meriden, CT 06450, 203-639-4855, simoneamcbride@yahoo.com
Michael E. Poole 405 Pinkster Lane, Slingerlands, NY 12159, 716-764-2835

Scott Barnhardt performed in the Christmas musical *Jim Henson's Emmet Otter* last December at the Goodspeed Opera in East Haddam, Conn. **Nicole Caruvana** married Daniel Ganci at St. Patrick's Church in Richmond, Staten Island, on November 27, 2009. A third grade teacher at P.S. 56 on Staten Island, Nicole earned a master's in education from the College of Staten Island and a master's in literacy education at Touro College.

2002

Class Agents: **Peter J. Herbst**
24 Bethke Road, Killingworth, CT 06419
Cindy M. Sforza Maley 54 Webster Ave., Ronkonkoma, NY 11779, 631-676-4757, smallwonder124@hotmail.com
Renee M. Nadal 634 Monmouth Ave., Port Monmouth, NJ 07758, 732-787-3294, nay537@yahoo.com

Melissa Dene '02 M'04 married Frank Ignazio Arnone on December 12, 2009, at St. Patrick's Church on Staten Island. Melissa is an associate and branch technology coordinator with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in Short Hills, N.J. **Joel Richardson** '02 M'07, known professionally as Soul Joel, was

named Staten Islander of the Week in early May by NY1 News for his new after-school program, Laughs 4 Kids (www.laugh4kids.com). Once a successful pharmaceutical sales representative, Joel now uses his public speaking abilities on stage as a full-time comedian, radio host and CEO of Soul Joel Productions (www.souljoel.com). Joel and co-founder of Soul Joel Productions, **Scott Chamberlin** M'07, created Laughs 4 Kids to teach important life lessons such as first impressions, nonverbal communication, public speaking, goal setting, and the power of laughter. Joel presented the program in April and May at I.S. 24 on Staten Island. Joel and Scott also produced the third annual Staten Island Comedy Festival, June 20–26.

2003

Class Agents: **Cari A. Christopher** 145 Tomb Street, Tiffin, OH 44883, cchristo@wagner.edu **Robert J. Hamm** 14 College Ave., Staten Island, NY 10314, 718-981-0515, bobby7770@yahoo.com **Nicole Lopes Steed** 2218 2nd Ave., Toms River, NJ 08753, 732-270-3660, nlopes55@yahoo.com

Ryan Castellani has begun to achieve success in harness racing, having followed his father and brother into the field. "I love it. I love to compete," says the former Wagner College football star in a press release. Principal of a private school in Tobyhanna and resident of Peckville, Penn., he won his first race as a harness racing trainer in November at Monticello Raceway in New York, with pacer Lisa Character driven by Kyle DiBenedetto. **Alyssa Gibaldi** M'03 has been living abroad since 2007, first in Shanghai, China, from 2007 to 2009, and now in Singapore. Married in 2007 to George Fricke, she works with Colliers International's corporate services group. Her role is to work with multinational corporations with real estate requirements across the Asia Pacific region. "I love my job because it allows me to travel the region and the ability to learn how business is done in many different countries, with all of their cultural,

social, economic, and political opportunities and challenges," she writes. "I've learned so much about myself and others." **Jacqueline Ligotti** and **Mark Fileccia** '97 M'00 were married on December 11 at St. Margaret Mary's Church in Midland Beach, Staten Island. Jacqueline is a first grade teacher at P.S. 41 in New Dorp, Staten Island, and Mark is a lieutenant with the New York City Fire Department. They live in Annadale, Staten Island. **Debra Lee Page** married Christopher John Guilbault on October 24, 2009, at St. Clare's Church in Great Kills, Staten Island. Debra is an assistant operations manager with inVentiv Health in Somerset, N.J., and a dance teacher with the Staten Island Dance Center. Christopher is a controller with Berry Plastics in Middlesex, N.J. They live in Belle Mead, N.J.

2004

Class Agent: **Alexis D. Hernandez-Hons**
5252 Orange Ave., Apt. 335, San Diego, CA 92103, lex382@aol.com

Jonathan Fazio '04 M'08 and **Andrea Angelucci** '05 were married on September 26, 2009, in Monmouth Beach, N.J. Jonathan is a mortgage-backed securities allocator with JP Morgan Chase Investment Bank, and Angela is a manager of advertising with Shiseido Cosmetics. They live and work in Manhattan. **Alexis Hernandez** married Ronald Hons on May 30, 2009, at Riverwalk Golf Course in San Diego. Many Wagner alumni attended. Alexis's Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority sisters **Dana Romano** and **Tea Saiti** were in the wedding party. Others attending included ASA sisters **Michelle Rubino** '03, **Laura Ambrogi** '03, and **Jessica Giebel** '05; **John Orecchia** of Kappa Sigma Alpha; and **Kyle Breuninger** of Theta Chi. Alexis received her Psy.D. in marital and family therapy from Alliant International University in San Diego in January 2009. **Erin Lynn McCarthy** married Michael John Castania on October 23, 2009, in Great Kills, Staten Island. She is a registered nurse with the city Department of Health in Brooklyn, and he is a physical therapist with Sports Training

Physical Therapy in Newark, N.J. They live in Silver Lake, Staten Island.

2005

Class Agents: **Melissa D. Powers**
313 Vesta Court, Ridgewood, NJ 07450, 201-394-2408, powers.mel@gmail.com **Matthew L. Sheehan** 114 Gray Ave., Apt. 3B, Syracuse, NY 13203, 315-437-5430, msheehan05@gmail.com

Andrea Angelucci and **Jonathan Fazio** '04 M'08 were married on September 26, 2009, in Monmouth Beach, N.J. Angela is a manager of advertising with Shiseido Cosmetics, and Jonathan is a mortgage-backed securities allocator with JP Morgan Chase Investment Bank. They live and work in Manhattan. **Chris Clark** reports that his final internship at Wagner College led directly to a full-time position with Metro Homes, LLC. During the past five years with the company, he has had the opportunity to work with the Trump and Lefrak families on development projects, participate in the development of nearly 1,000 condominium homes, and start and manage businesses for the company. **Daniel Higgins** and his wife, Regan, welcomed their first son, Liam Patrick Higgins, on September 29, 2009. The proud parents look forward to seeing him at Wagner as a member of the class of 2032. **Brad Landers** as well as **Drew Roelofs** '08 and **Will Sweet** '06 were all part of the *Cats* tour during the past year.

2006

Class Agents: **Leandra Aguirre**
2521 14th Street, Apt. 2, Astoria, NY 11102, 617-645-4859 **Michael A. Armato** michael.a.armato@gmail.com **Charles Bender** 18 Klondike Ave., Stamford, CT 06907, 603-759-7439, charles.bender@credit-suisse.com **Dana Guariglia** 312 Tysens Lane, Staten Island, NY 10306, 718-980-1848, daynez74@aol.com **Derek Lightcap** 33 First Ave., Pottstown, PA 19464, 610-570-2954, dlightcap@hotmail.com

Kevin Gutches has been performing in the national tour of *Annie* since 2008. His roles are Bundles/Ensemble, and U/S Rooster/Drake/Male Swing. As of December, the tour was scheduled to spend five weeks in China in 2010. **Mitch Sims** reports on his many musical activities in Vienna, Austria. One of his compositions, a chamber piece for sextet, was premiered at the Vienna Musikgymnasium in December. In January, he started working with Rotary International to form PEACE: Rotary Chamber Orchestra Vienna. This orchestra performed a benefit concert for music scholarships in June, and the concert was broadcast live on Austrian public service television. He is also doing research on Gregorian chant and keyboard instruments at two music libraries in Vienna, and he is teaching math and music in a bilingual school.

Diane Recinos M'06 was appointed senior vice president for enrollment management and career services at Berkeley College, a multi-campus business-focused school with locations in New York and New Jersey. She will oversee the admissions, financial aid, and career services departments, as well as the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs. She began working at Berkeley in 1992. **Will Sweet** as well as **Brad Landers** '05 and **Drew Roelofs** '08 were all part of the *Cats* tour during the past year.

2007

Class Agents: **Christopher Silvestri** 1730 E. 31st, Brooklyn, NY 11234, csilvest227@gmail.com

Nicole Filippazzo was promoted to assistant nurse manager of two

cardiac step-down units at North Shore Long Island Jewish Medical Center, where she has been employed since graduation. She is working on a Master in Nursing Education at Molloy College. **Monette McKay** has been on tour performing Ali in the musical *Mamma Mia!* **Ryan Lammer** performed in two productions at the Gateway Playhouse in Bellport, Long Island, this summer: He played Jim in Irving Berlin's *I Love a Piano*, and he was part of the ensemble in *Hairspray*. **Danny Scullin** was performing on tour with *The Wedding Singer* through March of this year.

2008

Class Agent: **Stephanie Savoia-Pearl** 403 Elm Street, Cranford, NJ 07016, stephanie.savoiapearl@gmail.com

Haley Carlucci was part of the cast for the new Broadway cast album of *West Side Story*, which won the 2010 Grammy for Best Musical Show Album. **Becky Giannattasio McCoy** completed her master's degree at Teachers College, Columbia University in May. She writes that she loved her time in graduate school. She developed a science education blog (justcallmemsfrizzle.wordpress.com) and was asked to write as press at the PBS Teaching & Learning Celebration. She is interviewing for teaching positions in Las Vegas, where she and her husband, Keith, are moving after graduation. **Erin O'Neil** joined **Mathew Ban** '09 and **John Cardenas** '09 in American International Music Management's inaugural tour of the musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. She played the role of Tzeitel, Tevye's oldest daughter. The tour went from December 2009 through

February 2010 and traveled throughout the Southeast. **Al Phillips** has been added to the 2010 roster of the Spokane Shock as defensive back. One of Wagner's star players, Al spent the 2008 season with the Cleveland Gladiators on the practice squad. In 2009, he played for the Manchester Wolves, and racked up 66.5 tackles, two interceptions, and 15 pass break-ups in only 10 games. **Amy Polumbo** starred in a production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* by Phoenix Productions in Red Bank, NJ, in April. The former Miss New Jersey performed a season's worth of shows as Ariel in Walt Disney World's live-action attraction *Voyage of the Little Mermaid*. **Drew Roelofs** as well as **Brad Landers** '05 and **Will Sweet** '06 were all part of the *Cats* tour during the past year.

2009

Class Agent: **Jacob Shoesmith-Fox** 570-765-5022, jacob.shoesmith-fox@wagner.edu

American International Music (AIM) Management's inaugural tour of *Fiddler on the Roof* starred three of Wagner's own: **Mathew Ban** and **John Cardenas**, both of whom were part of Wagner's production of *Fiddler*, as well as **Erin O'Neil** '08. Mathew played the part of Mendel, the rabbi's son, and John played the role of the Fiddler. AIM Management is a new theater company based in Jacksonville, Fla. The show was on tour from December 2009 through February 2010. **Christopher Cappelli** is working on his master's in public health, focusing on global environmental health, at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., and is involved in a

research project with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He explains that the CDC has been conducting disaster preparation training projects in American Samoa since the tsunami that occurred last September. Christopher is working with the CDC to create an evaluation to determine the efficacy of the training, and he plans to travel to American Samoa this summer to conduct the evaluation as well as make presentations about epidemiology, disasters and public health, and disaster preparation to Samoan officials. "The evaluations will be made into a report that will eventually be used to modify training procedures in state health departments as well as for international partners [of the CDC]," he says. **Zulmarie Franco** M'09 was selected to present her research at the New England Science Symposium at Harvard Medical School on February 28. She presented her thesis project with Zoltan Fulop, professor of biology, "Formed Elements in Peripheral Blood of Adult Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*): An Ultrastructural Study," which focused on neuronal degenerative and regenerative processes. **Jennifer Wright** is blogging about her work building an orphanage in Kenya here: underteamanitree.wordpress.com. **Kristie Scherrer** '10 joined Jennifer on a seven-week trip to Nairobi this summer.

2010

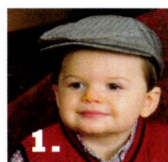
Class Agent: **Spencer Taylor** 4 Sheridan Drive, Tobyhanna, PA 18466, 570-839-8139, spencer.taylor@wagner.edu

Crib Notes

Classes of 2030 and 2031

Some of the newest faces to join the Wagner family

1. **Wendy Esposito Bennett** '93 M'95 and **Eddie Bennett** '92 M'94 announce the birth of Edward Lawrence Jr. on November 21, 2008.



2. **Lisa Coppola Maher** '97 and her husband, Dr. James Maher, welcomed their third daughter, Alexandra Riley, on September 9, 2009. Her sisters are Jordan (5) and Vanessa (2).



In Memoriam

Celebrating lives that enriched the Wagner family

Alumni

Mr. Edward L. Weller '38
Mr. Everett T. Brown '41
Dr. Hans W. Neuberg '41
Mrs. Norma Brown Aspinwall '42
Mrs. Kathleen Clements Reisch '46
Mr. Mark G. Carney '47
Mr. Philip Ard Burghart '50
Mr. John H. McIsaac '50
Dr. Robert H. Meibauer '50
Mr. Richard H. Schoenlank '50
Dr. Alfred H. Von Dran '50
Mr. Herman C. Witthaus '50
Rev. Robert T. Neilsen '53
Mrs. Anna Barnes Buell '54
Mrs. Albina Setaro Manzione M'54
Mr. William R. Thomson '54
Mrs. Geraldine Ulrich Vogt '55
Mr. Charles Hunsdorfer '56
Dr. Joan L. Venes '56
Mrs. Rosemary Agnes
Dell'edera Feeney Sterbenz '57
Mr. Arthur R. Koeppen M'58
Mr. Charles Bermpohl '60

Mr. Peter R. Tischler '60
Mr. Ronald S. Andrews '61
Mrs. Stella Doulis Kozyris '63
Mr. Norman F. Acocella '65
Rev. R. Haines Moffat '65
Mr. Donald P. Ringkamp '65
Mrs. Joan Errgong-Weider '66
Mr. Alan S. Molnar '68
Dr. Marilyn R. Aronson '69
Mr. James E. Ericson '69
Mrs. Ellen Graf Otten '70
Mr. Gene Guerriero '71
Miss Linda C. Hohenrath '71
Mrs. Barbara B. Blangiardo Krutzel '71
Mr. John Bacon Jr. '73
Ms. Christie Smith Roos '73
Mr. Philip C. Daly '75
Ms. Diana House '76
Mr. Brian E. Hafer '77
Ms. Ellen Archer '78
Mr. Wallace Gonzales '78
Ms. Monika B. Dernback '81
Mr. Edmund R. Mancuso '83

Mr. John R. Pepple '83
Ms. Valerie A. Osborne Summers '92
Ms. Landa J. Graziano '95
Mrs. Lisa R. Friedman Suratt M'96
Mr. Jonathan M. Acierno '02

Faculty, Staff and Friends

Mrs. Maxine Applebaum
Mrs. Nancy Avis
Mrs. Dorothy Kruse
Mr. Harold McNamara
Mr. Luke Piscitelli
Dr. George J. Safford
Mr. Dana Taranto
Mrs. Mary Lou Ulriksen
Dr. Anita Volland

Deaths reported to Wagner College, October 15, 2009–May 14, 2010

FACULTY REMEMBRANCES

Professor Anita Volland

Founding member of Wagner's anthropology department

Anita Volland, 69, retired professor of anthropology at Wagner College, died on November 11, 2009.

A native New Yorker, Volland received her bachelor's degree from Queens College and completed her doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania in 1975 with a dissertation on the arts in Polynesia.

Volland joined the Wagner faculty as an instructor of anthropology in 1969. She was promoted to assistant professor in 1976 and full professor in 1987. She was instrumental in establishing an anthropology major at Wagner College. After her retirement in 2005, the Anita Volland Anthropology Award for excellence in the study of anthropology by a graduating senior was named in her honor.

Her lifelong passion for dance led her to study first the hula, then flamenco dancers, before settling upon gypsies, which became her specialty. She was co-editor of *One Hundred Years of Gypsy Studies*, published in 1990 by the Gypsy Lore Society.

"Her lectures and conversations were filled with fond anecdotes of her travels in Spain, her pilgrimages to Assisi, and of course the rituals she studied," said Miles Groth, professor of psychology. She was "a teacher of the best sort — erudite in her field, expecting the best of her students, and embodying the tradition of a community of scholars."



You Haven't Changed a Bit

Anticipating class reunions *By Joel H. Cohen '50*

Class reunions always stir mixed emotions, and the announcement of my 60th at Wagner was no exception. But bottom line: I love 'em.

There's seldom more fun than having a classmate declare, "You haven't changed a bit," while staring at your name tag trying to figure out who the heck you are. Or, in the spirit of good fellowship, a fellow graduate asking, "Remember all the fun we had in chem lab?" And you responding, "Sure," though you never took chemistry.

Inevitably, regrets are expressed at the passing of years without contact. None are more sincere than those expressed by the fellow who, if he said anything to me during our four years in school together, it was, "Get outta my way, kid." For this one evening, though, he's my best buddy, and he pleads, almost tearfully, "We've got to get together again soon."

Reunions always offer the promise of *schadenfreude* — that forbidden (but, admit it, delicious) sensation of pleasure derived from the misfortunes of others. Secretly, I hope the idols of yesteryear have passed their prime: that the quarterback is flabby, the cheerleader matronly, the leading man fit only for character roles.

I wonder whether some of my memorable classmates will attend — the marathon pinochle players; the varsity jocks who sat stony-faced in speech class as I urged more resources for intramural sports; the girl in bio lab who implored me to grab a frog for her from the barrel of embalmed animals ready for dissection, and I was not able to admit I was as squeamish about it as she was.

Too many years have passed to expect to see memorable professors — the drama coach who called me Senator Claghorn in reference to my overdone Southern accent in a Varsity Players production; the shy, courtly historian who always ended a scholarly commentary with,



“ Will I remember my classmates' names? ”

"Well, a lot more could be said about that"; the psychologist who charged a quarter to transport students up

the hill in his station wagon.

Questions circle in my mind: Will the one-time heartthrob cause a murmur? Will age concerns cause absences? Will classmates have changed drastically, like the prankster who led us to hide on the roof during French class, and who is now a serious political force? Will all of us look old?

Will I remember my classmates' names? I recently introduced myself to the same stranger twice within a five-minute span. On the other hand, I immediately identified an unnamed classmate pictured in this magazine, even though we'd had only passing contact during school and none since. So there's hope. And name tags.

So, send this boy to campus, and let the fun begin!

Joel H. Cohen '50 is a Staten Island native, husband, father of four, and freelancer who writes for anyone who'll have him.

WAGNER COLLEGE

Newshawk

An internship with *NBC Nightly News* turned into a Wagner journalistic coup for Michael Pinto '10 this spring. Host of *Marvelous Mike & Friends* for WCBG student radio, Pinto scored a 20-minute exclusive interview with Brian Williams, the *NBC Nightly News* anchorman (seen below). "After the interview, when passing him in the hallways, I always got a, 'How you doing today, Marvelous?' from him, which was pretty amazing," Pinto says. A government and politics major and journalism minor at Wagner, Pinto will continue his studies at the St. John's School of Law in the fall, with hopes of become an entertainment attorney. Go to www.wagner.edu/news/node/1449 to watch the interview.

