

SUMMER 2013

THE LINK FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

WAGNER

Question Everything

*Pat Dugan '57
used his wealth
to give us all a gift*

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Working Hard to Succeed • Saving Social Security • Finding a New Home

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F E A T U R E S

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'I Worked Hard Every Single Day in Order to Succeed'

When Francis Zuniga '14 returned to the U.S. after eight years in El Salvador, she had forgotten English. Today she is a self-supporting top student at Wagner College.

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See and Be Scene

Art major Francesca Shaw '13 created this piece for her senior project, *Social Silhouettes*. Read more about it in "From the Editor," page 3.



Saving Social Security

As America's retirement program approaches insolvency, two Wagner business professors propose a 'simple plan' to reverse course and provide a more secure future for today's workers.

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Question Everything

When Pat Dugan '57 became wealthy, he did not merely give to charity. He gave us all a gift by creating one of the most powerful watchdogs in the world of philanthropy: Charity Navigator.

From the President

The class of 2013 shows a promising future



THIS YEAR once again, my pride in the graduating class is overflowing. Let me highlight for you just a few of the new alumni and their achievements.

Twelve were accepted to medical and dental schools.

Mark Fealey is headed to veterinary school at Cornell University; going to dental schools are **Sheldon Rozman** at the University of Pennsylvania, **William Rivera** at Columbia University, swim team member **Josephine Ieraci** at the University of Connecticut, Student Government Association President **Greg Balaes** at Rutgers, and **Krey Keller**, a lacrosse team member, at the University of Missouri.

Another 10 are headed to Ph.D. programs. **Bujar Tagani** will be attending the top-rated doctoral program in computer engineering at Carnegie Mellon University. **Katie Yoest** will enroll in the Ph.D. program in behavioral neuroscience at the University of Michigan. **KariAnna Eide-Lindsay** is entering a Ph.D. program in Hispanic literature at Rutgers, and **Anthony Gambino** in quantitative psychology at Columbia. Physics majors **Vincent Lombardo** and **Carley Nicoletti** will attend the Stevens Institute of Technology and the New Jersey Institute of Technology, respectively. **Kelly Dennis**, an excellent athlete on the track and cross country team, will pursue her Ph.D. in chemistry at the University of Southern California.

Another six are on their way to law school, such as **James Alicea** at Cornell University and **Adam Nicolais** at Fordham University. Some will enter master's programs, such as **Katherine Fias** at the New York Studio School for painting, and **Mirabai Dougé**, a double major in French and English, at Hunter College for education. **Elise Trudel** and **Rhea Francani**, who were both active in the Port Richmond Partnership, will begin master's programs at Columbia University Teachers College.

A significant number entered the job market. **Sutton Bantle** will begin a career with PricewaterhouseCoopers. **Catie Grasso** and **Joseph Jamison** both secured positions with Merrill Lynch; **Nicole Arnold** with the Securities and Exchange Commission; **Paul Barchitta** with Cowen and Company; **Michael Savino** with J.P. Morgan; and **Carl Sinagra Jr.** with the Bank of New York Mellon.

Ashley Vanger is employed in the criminal justice system with the NYPD. A number have offers in health care, such as **Amanda Diekmann**, **Eileen Coltrinari**, and **Miranda Nicoletti** at New York-Presbyterian Hospital; **Keri Pippo** at Mt. Sinai Hospital; and **Cicely Edwards**, **Naira Feinberg**, **Nwando Nzegwu**, **Elda Ziko**, and **Clare Brown** at Staten Island University Hospital.

Space does not suffice to mention all of the outstanding graduates — in the theater program, athletics, nursing, the physician assistant program, the Port Richmond Partnership, and in every other major and program. (Watch my speech at wagner.edu to hear more about them.) In addition, the class of 2013 made a record senior gift of \$15,000 for a scholarship.

In an age too often marked by hatred, terrorism, severe environmental stress, widening gulfs of wealth, literacy, and access to basic healthcare, their generation is destined to usher in a new type of leadership, where knowledge and empathy are joined to social responsibility and effective action. They have my deepest affection and best wishes.

Richard Guarasci
PRESIDENT

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Anthony Cappadora '13, a future physician assistant, will earn his master's at Wagner next year.

“Their generation is destined to usher in a new type of leadership.”



From the Editor

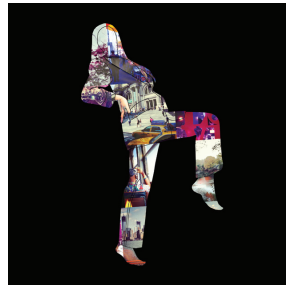
The Art of Instagram

ONE FRIDAY afternoon toward the end of the spring semester, I stopped by the Union gallery to check out the senior art projects. Francesca Shaw's *Social Silhouettes* series caught my eye, and she gave us permission to bring you one of her pieces on the opening spread of this magazine.

Francesca's biography caught my eye as well: She was born in Talca, Chile; raised in Providence, Rhode Island, "where she built sandcastles and survived off of coffee milk for 15 years"; and moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, for high school.

"All through elementary school," the biography goes on, "Francesca gravitated towards her art classes, which were much more fun than fractions and spelling tests." She was also fascinated with cameras, and received her first digital camera for Christmas when she was only 9 years old.

An art major at Wagner, Francesca studied abroad for a semester of her junior year at the Queensland College of Art in Brisbane, Australia. Back at Wagner, her senior art project developed from a photo shoot with a friend. She went on to photograph many more friends, asking for them "to pose with forms of movement." These became her silhouettes. (She herself is the middle silhouette.) She incorporated more than 70 photographs into the



silhouettes, many taken and edited using Instagram.

"My intention for intermixing the different kinds of photography was to relate to how much influence popular social media has on our society," she wrote in her artist's statement. What I liked about her pictures was not only the technological commentary, but also the joyful and effortless poses of the silhouetted people. Speaking of social media, are you following us? In the Office of Communications, we are making more efforts to integrate our print publications and our social media channels.

Let's keep in contact between issues and find ways to talk about this magazine's content. Go to [facebook.com/WagnerCollege](https://www.facebook.com/WagnerCollege) and hit the "like" button, and follow us on Twitter, where we're @WagnerCollege. You can also get a regular diet of Wagner College images through our Instagram account, @WagnerCollege.

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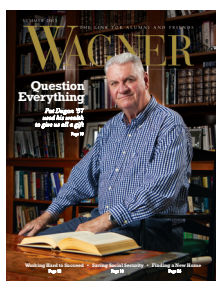
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On the Cover

Pat Dugan '57, an avid reader, has a home library stocked with hundreds of books. His vision and risk-taking have led him to start businesses, make money, and found a nonprofit that benefits all of us: Charity Navigator.

PHOTOGRAPH: TODD MARTI

From Our Readers



Lelah Carlton Urban '61 M'65 saved this autographed photo of Melchior from his concert performance at Wagner in 1958.

“After our concert, we were invited to a party to sing “Happy Birthday” to the guest of honor, who was, in fact, Lauritz Melchior.”

Melchior Memories

Editor's Note: The fall 2012 issue of *Wagner Magazine* featured the operatic tenor Lauritz Melchior as our subject for “Who in the Wagner World Was ...?” We recounted the story of how he left his large-game trophy collection to Wagner College in his will, but many readers contacted us to say that there was much more to the history of Melchior's relationship with the College. **Donald Kane '49** recalled that Melchior received an honorary degree from Wagner College in 1950. **Vivian Seidel '61** told us about singing with the choir and performing some scenes from *The Student Prince* in a 1958 concert featuring Melchior at Wagner College. “It's something we will always remember,” she said. “He was jolly, a real nice man.” Others added more details ...

YOUR ARTICLE on Lauritz Melchior brought back such wonderful memories. In 1958 Melchior gave a concert in the Sutter Gymnasium. As I was a member of the Varsity Players, our group did the staging and lighting for the concert. I think either Al Wagner '58 or Carl Westerdahl '59 was in charge of our crew. Varsity Players was not the professional group that it is today, but oh, what fun it was. Thank you for such a nice remembrance.

Lelah Carlton Urban '61 M'65
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK

MY MEMORY of a Wagner connection with Lauritz Melchior is through my membership in the Wagner Choir. The Wagner Choir was invited to give a concert in Manhattan at the German-American Club. Following

our performance, word reached us that downstairs in one of the dining rooms, Lauritz Melchior was celebrating his birthday. Perhaps it was President Davidson who arranged it, but the entire choir was escorted down the back stairs to the room, where we were introduced to Melchior. There we sang “Happy Birthday” to him. He was very grateful for our singing. At nearly 80, he still had an eye for the girls and collected a birthday kiss from each of the sopranos and altos.

Brett Murphy '71 M'75
WEST BERLIN, VERMONT

I ALWAYS look forward to receiving *Wagner Magazine*, as it's full of news about the school and some of my classmates. The recent edition, featuring the article about Lauritz Melchior, jogged a cherished memory from my three years of singing in the Wagner College Choir (1968–71). I am guessing that it would have been March of 1970 when the choir was invited to perform at the famed Liederkrantz Club on East 87th Street in Manhattan, in what was then still referred to as Germantown. After our concert, we were invited to a party to sing “Happy Birthday” to the guest of honor, who was, in fact, Lauritz Melchior. He was every bit the large and imposing man with the white hair and beard that is portrayed in the photo you used for the article. It would have been his 80th birthday that year, and I recall he was very gracious in thanking us for our singing. I don't remember if President Davidson was there that evening, but he might well have been. I was unaware of the trophy collection that Melchior left to the College, but I will try to take a look next time I visit the campus. Thanks again for reminding me once more of some of the great experiences that I had as a member of the choir and a student at Wagner!

Pamela Paul '71
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK

I JUST wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed your article about Lauritz Melchior. I graduated from Wagner in 1972 and was a member of the choir. I remember one year we traveled to some kind of European music club in NYC (my memory is foggy in the details) to sing “Happy Birthday” (and a few other songs) to Mr. Melchior. This was organized by Walter Bock, who accompanied the choir on a tour of Germany (which included driving through East Germany to get to Berlin). Reading your article brought back memories of meeting and congratulating Mr. Melchior, along with the many wonderful experiences I had while being a member of the choir.

Susan Okrasinski '72
KINGSPORT, TENNESSEE

A Poetic Tribute

IT WAS such an interesting coincidence seeing Marcel Montané’s letter in the fall 2012 issue of *Wagner Magazine* commemorating [biology professor] Dr. Yarns, especially because I had just finished a poem about him. In addition to being a great professor, Dr. Yarns was also a great advisor and friend to many of his students. I graduated from Wagner in 1970, and even after all these years he is still frequently in my thoughts. Sending along my poem and also an image of his famous anti-pollution button. (I wonder how many of your readers remember that!)

Michael Estabrook '70
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Dr. Dale Yarns, Professor of Biology

Poor Dr. Yarns –
had a stroke or a massive coronary
(Why are they always massive,
isn't a run-of-the-mill coronary enough?)
don't recall which now but
it's a moot point really
the same result follows –
Over semester break, while back home in Iowa
with his family, Dr. Dale Yarns dropped dead
right there on the restaurant floor.

“What are we going to do?”
Good old Dr. Yarns would ask
the entire Biology class
to get us thinking in practical terms about
protesting the military action in Vietnam,
demonstrating for civil rights
for blacks and women,
and for intensifying the fight against pollution:
“Pollution is Bad for the Gonads”
was his phrase we all wore
on buttons all across campus (and town).

“What,” he'd pause for dramatic effect,
“Are we going to do? What – Are – We –
Going – To – DO?” getting louder
and louder and louder.
Not sure we ever figured it out really,
not to this day, but those buttons were fun to wear,
and Dr. Yarns – his wisdom, good humor,
compassion, and decency –
stays strong still in our memories.

– Michael Estabrook '70

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. Write to:

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Upon the Hill

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



A SPIRIT OF “CAN-DO” is what Myrlie Evers-Williams H’13 said she sees at Wagner College.

Fueled by Setbacks

Civil rights leader encourages graduates to embrace optimism

AN ICON of the civil rights movement inspired Wagner’s class of 2013 at commencement on May 24.

Myrlie Evers-Williams lost her husband, Medgar Evers, to an assassin’s bullet in Jackson, Mississippi, 50 years ago. Yet she soldiered on, continuing her education at Pomona College, running for office, becoming a public servant in Los Angeles, serving as chair of the NAACP from 1995 to 1998, and starting the Medgar Evers Institute to promote education, training, and economic development.

Recalling her own story and the hatred she had to overcome, she encouraged the graduates to be positive, seek the good, and work toward a more just society. “Believe in yourself. Believe in your goals. Realize that there will be setbacks, but let those setbacks only serve as fuel to move you forward,” she said.

Also proudly crossing the Wagner stage with the 419 undergraduate and 147 master’s degree recipients was former Staten Island Borough President Ralph Lamberti, who received an honorary degree. Lamberti is chair of Wagner’s DaVinci Society.

 Read more about the class of 2013 in “From the President” on page 2. To watch a video of Myrlie Evers-Williams’ speech, visit wagner.edu.

Quote Unquote

Jack
Welch
FORMER
GE CHAIR



“Any manager over 30 is dangerous.”

“Why?”

“Because the world is changing so fast.”



Maria
Bartiromo
WALL STREET
REPORTER

SPEAKING AT THE PRESIDENTIAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT ON APRIL 25



SHOOTING STAR Léopoldine Despointes' first film was a Tribeca Film Festival pick.

No Limits

Launching a film career from a wheelchair

“I HEARD that you are interested in making your own film,” wrote Léopoldine Huyghues Despointes '14 to French actress Laure de Clermont in September 2011. “I am interested in acting in a film. Would you be interested in working with me?”

A scant year and a half later, that film was finished — and became one of the select few accepted into the Tribeca Film Festival.

Despointes accomplished this feat while also majoring in international

business at Wagner and living abroad on her own; she's from Paris, France. Because of a genetic disorder, osteogenesis imperfecta (commonly known as brittle bone disease), she uses a wheelchair.

Like the character she plays in her film, Despointes lets no obstacle keep her from reaching her goals.

Atlantic Avenue is an 11-minute narrative film set on a gritty Queens street near JFK airport. Despointes plays a young woman whose scarf becomes entangled in her wheelchair while she is crossing the street. A scruffy young man — in fact, he is a prostitute awaiting his client — comes to her aid. Because of the determination of Despointes' character, this chance encounter turns into an

unlikely and touching romance.

“Breaking taboos” was the goal with this film, Despointes explains. She and de Clermont wrote a script that addressed both disability and sexuality in honest and atypical ways. The two collaborated on production and fundraising for the project as well.

Despointes' original goal in coming to the United States was to become a lawyer focused on the rights of the disabled. Along with her older sister, who has the same disease, she was raised without any limits — they skied and rode horses, took piano and voice lessons, and went to school without special accommodations for the disabled. Despointes also took acting lessons and appeared in stage productions. “I saw other handicapped people, but they were not like me, not outgoing, no projects going on in their lives. I wanted to change how people saw them,” she says.

Working on *Atlantic Avenue* has sent her in a new direction. Now she is starting her own production company and working on film projects around various causes, including disability, rape, and anorexia. Her touchstone is the 2011 blockbuster French movie *The Intouchables*, about a paraplegic man and his assistant. “I want to make films with real impact on people,” she says, propping her feet comfortably on a nearby table in a Foundation Hall lounge while tossing her long, brown hair.

With the face of an angel and the willpower of a general, she will doubtless succeed.

News about *Atlantic Avenue*:
www.facebook.com/WheelsTurn

First the Facts . . .

10,000
DOLLARS DONATED TO
SANDY-AFFECTED STUDENTS
BY WAGNER CARES

14
STUDENTS RECEIVED
AWARDS

40
HOURS PER WEEK
WORKED BY WAGNER CARES
INTERNS THIS SUMMER



LISTEN AND LEARN Chaz Taylor '15 records children's experiences of Hurricane Sandy at St. Charles School in Oakwood, Staten Island.

‘Not the Same World’

Students stay engaged with Hurricane Sandy recovery

IN THE PAST, Wagner's Alternative Spring Break program has sent student groups to faraway locations such as Haiti, West Virginia, and Toronto to do volunteer work.

This year, students had that experience right here on Staten Island. And it wasn't only Wagner spending spring break here; the College hosted 78 students and staff from six colleges — four from New York and two from the Midwest — to help with Hurricane Sandy relief projects.

Most of the colleges just used

Wagner's dorms for a home base while volunteering on the island. But Wagner developed a partnership with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, located in Troy, New York, to create an Alternative Spring Break experience capitalizing on the insights and inclinations of engineering and liberal arts students.

Besides helping homeowners renovate their flooded homes, the students met with community activists and conducted interviews with children affected by the storm.

For Chaz Taylor '15, a business marketing major from Princeton, New Jersey, getting to know the RPI students was especially enriching, because they brought a different perspective to the project. Kellie Griffith '14, an education major, treasured the opportunity to work with children and record their

stories of surviving the hurricane.

All of the Wagner students were struck by the amount of upheaval that still exists on Staten Island's eastern shore.

“I realized there's a lot more work that needs to be done,” said Molly Delbridge '14, an anthropology and Spanish double major. “When we came back to campus after [evacuating for] the storm, it didn't seem like we were living in the same world. But then we returned to normalcy. It was good to be immersed in that feeling again that it was not the same world. Thousands, hundreds of thousands lost their homes.”

... Then
the Quiz!



When did Wagner
Cares get started?

ANSWER ON PAGE 11



AGONY AND ECSTASY From his home's destruction to his class ring's reappearance, Sandy took Robert De Vincenzi through the gamut of emotions.



The Ring's Return

**After Sandy's devastation,
one alum regains
a long-lost treasure**

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS ago, Robert De Vincenzi '76 lost one of his most precious possessions: his Wagner College class ring. While he was splashing in the warm Atlantic waters of the Bahamas, the ring slipped from his finger and disappeared in the waves.

Last October, the ocean returned to steal from him again. This time, it grabbed not just one prized object, but everything he owned, as the Atlantic Ocean drove into the coast of Staten Island, devouring his home in a 12-foot surge from Hurricane Sandy.

About a month later, something

magical happened at those very same waters that took away Robert's class ring 35 years ago.

A newlywed couple from southeastern Missouri, Randy and Linda Wilkinson, were taking a honeymoon cruise of the Bahamas, when they disembarked on Nassau and decided to relax for a while on Junkanoo Beach. They had just stretched their legs out on the warm sand, when a nearby object caught their eye.

It was a ring — a large, bulky ring. Its elaborate engravings were corroded and encrusted with tiny shells. But, the year 1976 was visible on one side. Clearly, it was a class ring. The Wilkinsons stashed it away in their shipboard cabin.

Back home in Cape Girardeau, they took the ring to their friends Kent and Vicki Zickfield at Zickfield's Jewelry. For about a week, the Zickfields worked on gently cleaning it, until they could see a name engraved on the inside:

Robert De Vincenzi.

The Wilkinsons contacted the alumni office at Wagner College and spoke with Rebecca Colucci '06, who went to work on finding Robert De Vincenzi. It wasn't easy; the telephone number in the College's records didn't work because his house had been destroyed. Finally, Colucci found De Vincenzi through the business office of the Fulton Fish Market, where he has worked for many years.

"Wonderful. Ecstatic. Overwhelmed. Words can't describe how I feel," De Vincenzi said when he reclaimed his ring on December 12 at Wagner College's Reynolds House. He added that he has not only regained his ring, but also made new friends. "The Wilkinsons told me that I now have friends in Missouri, and I told them that they now have a friend in New York," he said. "God bless them. I hope to see them soon."

Quote Unquote

“You can’t have a society that operates on a ‘get mine’ philosophy. ... We have to imagine that our survival is collective.”



Tricia Rose
PROFESSOR OF
AFRICANA STUDIES
AT BROWN UNIVERSITY,
AT THE BLACK HISTORY
MONTH SYMPOSIUM
ON FEBRUARY 13

WINDOW ON WAGNER

The Annex

IN SEPTEMBER 1918, Wagner College had 42 boarding students occupying a single dorm, the building we now call Reynolds House. By 1921, enrollment had risen to 72 students, and more housing was desperately needed. Construction of a new dormitory was approved, but it

wouldn't be ready until September 1923.

To bridge the gap, a group of alumni pooled their resources and, for \$18,000, bought the former boarding house at 86 Glenwood Avenue, a 15-minute walk from campus. The Annex, as it was called, housed 10 or 11 students and three faculty members for two years.

“The house ... is three-storied with a very high and roomy attic,” said the College newsletter. “It contains 22 rooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, and 2 heating plants.”

This note described life at the Annex in the spring of 1922:

There are ten jolly good fellows who ... certainly enjoy the life of the Annex. It is not so disturbing as up on the hill, except when the next door neighbor tries to make the self-commencer

on his “flivver” work early in the morning

This “Lizzie” is not the only thing that disturbs the peace of the Annex. It is the midnight song [of] ... two cats, maybe three or four, or more, which seem to arouse the professors from their slumber, but the studes sleep through it all.

Nevertheless, these ten boys claim that life at the Annex surpasses that of the Dorm.

The College moved all students back to campus when the new dormitory — now called Parker Hall — was finished. But the Annex is still standing, and today looks very much as it did in 1921. — *Lee Manchester*



THEN AND NOW The Annex in 1923 and today.



Coursework Anthropology 306: Methods in GIS and Geomatics

Data Mapping

WHETHER YOU'RE interpreting political polls, planning bus routes, or studying wildlife populations, geomatics and Geographic Information Software (GIS) can help you reach your goals. In the spring 2013 semester, Wagner students for the first time were able to take a class introducing them to these powerful methods of employing data that has a spatial reference point.

The students learned by developing projects of their own design. The final presentations were as diverse as the students themselves: Keila McCracken

'14 used her family's logbooks about weather and deer hunting, dating back to the 1950s, to study the relationship between snow cover and the movements of deer populations in Minnesota. Nick Gibaldi '14, who works as a lifeguard on the beaches of Suffolk County on Long Island, mapped the relationship among ocean depths, wave height, and tides. Zack Stanley '15 drew on his experience growing up in the coal mining country in Kentucky to look at human health in those areas. Kevin Ferreira '13, who has become

**Elevation map
created with GIS**



an immigrant advocate on Staten Island through his work with the Port Richmond Partnership, plotted the residential patterns of ethnic groups on Staten Island.

“There's tons of data out there,” says Michael Scholl, adjunct professor of anthropology. Pulling a grocery card out of his wallet as an example, he points out that stores, websites, and social media are amassing random facts at an exponential pace. “The hard part is knowing what question to ask,” Scholl remarks. This challenge is what his students are now better equipped to meet.

The Answer
QUIZ QUESTION
ON PAGE 11

WAGNER CARES (wagnercares.org) got started last November, days after Hurricane Sandy, by Student Government officers Greg Balaes '13 and Kate Schaefer '15 to mobilize the Wagner response to the disaster.

A Match Made at Wagner

When a will is more than just an estate plan

ARCHIE EDGAR still remembers how Professor Marie-Emma Bacher would call on him in his freshman French course in the fall of 1946: “Mon-SIEUR Ar-chi-BAL,” she would pronounce, to his chagrin. (He prefers to go by Archie rather than his given name, Archibald.)

But this unwanted attention for the shy Army veteran, who had served in General Patton’s 14th Armored Division in Europe, turned out to be a boon when he met a fellow French student, the lovely and equally shy Charlotte Pederson. It was as if they had been made for each other.

Archie left Wagner College after one year, but he never left Charlotte. He completed his degree in business administration at Rutgers in 1949, while she continued at Wagner as an English major, graduating in 1950. They were happily married for 62 years, until her passing in 2012.

He had a long career with the National Biscuit Company, retiring as Senior Purchasing Agent. While making his estate plan after his wife’s death, Archie thought not only of his alma mater, Rutgers, but also of Charlotte’s — Wagner College, the place that had brought them together.

With a scholarship in Charlotte’s name to be left to Wagner College at his death, Archie Edgar has become one of the newest members of Wagner’s Heritage Society.

“The Heritage Society is a way to honor and recognize people who have made one of the most important decisions in their lives: to leave part of their assets to the College, to benefit other young people as they were benefitted,” says Howard Braren ’50 H’12, the alumnus and Wagner trustee who founded this group about 13 years ago.

Braren, who has had a long career as a fundraising consultant for nonprofits, is delighted with the response to the Heritage Society. Although some do not wish to make their estate plans known to the College, the vast majority “are proud they’ve done it,” he says.

And their posthumous gifts have made a huge difference to the College. For example, estates from Herbert Vaughan ’34, Erma Rudloff Coutts ’39, and Leroy N. Houseman ’55 M’57 contributed about \$4 million to the Main Hall restoration effort. Others provide thousands of dollars in scholarships annually.

“I know Charlotte would have been so happy to be remembered for helping students at Wagner studying English literature,” says Archie. “We both thank Wagner College and its splendid personnel for the opportunity to do so.”

Contact Kristen Krista, director of major gifts, at 718-420-4529 or kristen.krista@wagner.edu to join the Heritage Society or to discuss estate planning options.



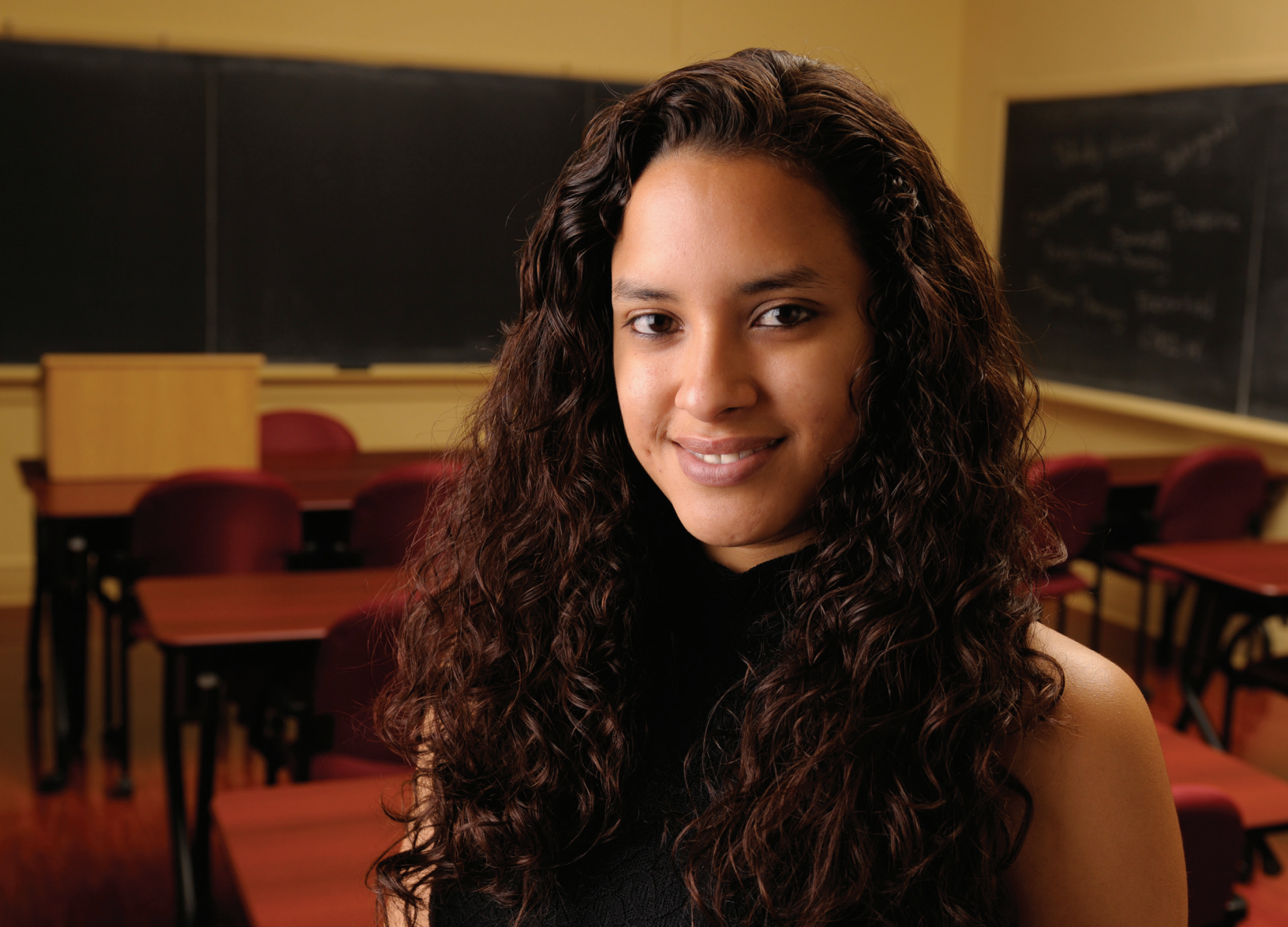
Where Health and Harm Collide

We all know that pharmaceutical companies discover, manufacture, and bring to market products that help us and even save our lives. In *The Drug Company Next Door: Pollution, Jobs, and Community Health in Puerto Rico* (New York University Press, 2013), Alexa S. Dietrich, assistant professor of anthropology at Wagner College, shows another side of the industry: Ironically, these guardians of public health can also be a significant source of air and water pollution, toxic to people and to the environment.

Dietrich explores how this dynamic plays out in one small town in Puerto Rico with more than a dozen drug factories, the highest concentration per capita of such factories in the world. Without demonizing the companies, she portrays their interaction with the local community and the strategies that have been used to address the pollution issue.

The Drug Company Next Door puts a human face on a growing set of problems for communities around the world. Accessible and engaging, the book encourages readers to think critically about the role of corporations in everyday life, health, and culture.





I Worked Hard Every Single Day in Order to Succeed

One student's story of immigration,
upheaval, and overcoming

By Francis Zuniga '14, as told to Laura Barlament

I was born in New York, in Far Rockaway, Queens. When I was 3, my mother decided to move back to her hometown in El Salvador. We lived there for eight years — she and my sister and brother and I. My mom was a single parent, always busy working, and my sister took care of me. She's seven years older than me, and she was basically like my mother. But after a few years, first my brother and then my sister went back to New York. When my sister left, it was really hard on me. I was alone most of the time.

We lived in a town called San Vicente. Our house was next to the city jail. We'd open the back door and say hello to the guards standing in the doorway. The front of the house faced the dusty streets. The people across from us had a big farm with cows, horses,

pigs, chickens. We had a *finca*, like a backyard, an acre of land to grow fruit — mangoes, papaya, kiwis, avocado. We had so many different types of mangoes. The green ones were the best; we would cut them in pieces and eat them with lemon and salt.

I was bullied a lot. Because I was born in America, the other kids were kind of jealous. After school I would get jumped. My mom would say, “Hey, listen, you have to fight back.” I had to learn how to protect myself.

I was happy when my mother told me we were coming back to New York. It was thanks to my sister that we were able to go. She was 16 or 17, working multiple jobs to bring us back. I was 11 years old, and I didn’t speak English, only Spanish. In El Salvador, I went to a Seventh Day Adventist school, a private school with uniforms and lessons on how to be a good Christian girl. School there is very strict, and they expect a lot. So when I came here, I was a perfectionist. Even if I didn’t understand what I was doing, I would do it anyway. I would read the questions and try to match them up with the book and copy the answers.

Once I got a grasp of everything, I became an A student. I learned English really fast, I think because I was born here. And I was determined to be successful. I wanted to help my family and not be in those living conditions anymore, so I worked hard every single day in order to succeed.

My mom is a housekeeper and doesn’t have a steady job. She would move constantly, every six months from one house to another house, from town to town. And I would always have to move schools. In middle school, I got fed up. We moved from Levittown, in Long Island, to Freeport, and I would wake up at 4 in the morning to go back to my middle school in Levittown, until the school found out I was doing that and made me go to my local school.

When I finished middle school, my mom decided to move again, but this

time she was going to Florida. I went with her for three months. I didn’t like it, and I came back here.

The court placed me with my aunt in Levittown.

But life is rough, and my aunt couldn’t just say, “Yeah, come for free.” So, my mom and I paid rent.

I was working at KFC, the Dollar Store, and I was tutoring, too. That’s how I was able to help pay my own rent.

I went to Island Trees High School. I was on the track and cross country teams; I was in Student Council, Environmental Club, Peer Leaders, Athletes Helping Athletes. I was a top student in my graduating class.

I had no idea how I would be able to afford college, but God has always put guiding angels in my life. Mr. Weber, my guidance counselor, guided me through every single step. I applied to 17 schools. Every letter I would get, I would go talk to him about it. I didn’t know anything about money. When I got my financial aid package from Wagner, Mr. Weber was filled with joy. He helped me write letters and get a bigger scholarship. That’s what really enforced my decision to come here.

Now I’m in my junior year at Wagner College, a biopsychology major with a concentration in physical therapy and a minor in Spanish. These last three years at Wagner College have been great for me. I have met wonderful friends, wonderful faculty and staff, and many doors have been opened. One that has impacted me the most was studying abroad in Spain. Being an independent student making \$200 a month, you might think that there would be no chance of having this amazing opportunity, yet that was not the case. By studying abroad, I learned that I really can do anything I put my mind to.

Wagner College keeps me busy. I have been a cross country and track

and field athlete; I am president of Habitat for Humanity. In 2010 we went

‘It’s the people you meet who really make the difference.’

to Ecuador, and this year we have been very busy helping people affected by Hurricane Sandy. Now we’re raising money for our next trip. This spring, I was named the Megerle Scholar for Achievement in the Sciences. Recognition like this inspires me to move forward and reach all of my goals. I won’t feel satisfied until I get my doctorate in physical therapy. Then I want to work internationally and help unfortunate families throughout the world.

The life I have had has not been easy. The obstacles might at first seem discouraging; but once I overcome them, I get stronger and become motivated to strive for more.

For me, God is the main thing, the key to living. I don’t think I would have gotten this far without God. He plays a big part in my sister’s life, too. She’s always been a role model to me. She supported me and my mother, and she completed her degree and is a dental hygienist and happily married. She expects me to do well and believes in me. Without her support, my faith in God, my family and friends, all the nice people I have met at Wagner, I might have given up. Knowing they believe in me keeps me going. When you get along with people, the place where you are doesn’t really matter; it’s the people you meet who really make the difference. ■



See more photos and hear Francis tell her story in her own voice at wagner.edu/wagnermagazine

SAVING SOCIAL SECURITY

As America's retirement program approaches insolvency, two Wagner business professors propose a 'simple plan' to reverse course

By Lee Manchester





wo Wagner College business professors, Donald Crooks and Cathyann Tully, are worried about our future.

“If you ask people — particularly our students — if they think

Social Security will be around for them as a benefit, they are assuming that it’s not going to be there,” says Professor Tully.

And they may be right.

In 20 years, when the Social Security trust fund reserve is exhausted, ongoing contributions will cover only 75 percent of the system’s costs* — and even the benefits of a fully funded Social Security system aren’t that great.

“Today, the average annual payout for Social Security is \$18,756,” Professor Tully estimates — not a generous retirement income in most people’s books.

So, what about 401(k)s, the privately owned and managed pension funds everyone is supposed to be building to bridge the gap between Social Security (if it still exists) and their actual living expenses after retirement?

“The last number I read, just last week, is that the average person has just \$30,000 in their 401(k) at the time they retire,” Tully says, “and \$30,000 doesn’t get you very far today.”

“And that’s pre-tax money,” Professor Crooks adds.

“If the 401(k)s aren’t doing well, and we let Social Security go by the wayside, then what’s going to happen to people in their retirement years?” Tully asks. “We’ll be back to the way things were in 1935 when FDR created Social Security. Old people were starving in the streets, and that was unacceptable.

“I think that to make some changes, to reinvent the whole program in some simple, no-tax-increase, low-cost ways, will allow people to eliminate some of the uncertainty that comes with planning for retirement.”

Tully and Crooks sat down with *Wagner Magazine* to explain their program in more detail.

REINVENTING SOCIAL SECURITY

WAGNER MAGAZINE: Tell us about your program.

CATHYANN TULLY: We call it STRAP — the Secured Transparent Retirement Account Program. In some ways, it would be very similar to what we have today. Each taxpayer would have their own account to which they would be contributing, and the employer would be matching that contribution, very much like what we have now.

DONALD CROOKS: The big difference is that we want to make it so that your account is your money — very simple. And

instead of just sitting there, we would invest those funds in various financial markets.

TULLY: In the first 20 years, you take an aggressive investment strategy. In the next 10 years, from years 21 to 30 of your working life, you take an intermediate investment strategy. And then in the last 10 years of your working life, from years 31 to 40, you take a conservative investment strategy, and stick with that conservative investment strategy during your retirement years. You have 40 years of pay-in, and then another 30 years of pay-out.

We used historically typical rates of return to figure their results — 10.5 percent for an aggressive investment strategy, 9.33 percent for an intermediate strategy, and 6 percent for the remainder.

If you were to follow that scenario through — and I followed it for someone my age, assuming regular salary increases over your work life — the payout would be \$82,000 a year. The payout that person gets today under the system that exists in our country for Social Security is \$18,756. That’s a substantial difference.

I also backed the investment returns down a little bit — I did 9.33, 5 percent and 3.9 percent. Some people might feel that’s a little more realistic, perhaps, though it’s not consistent with historical returns. Nevertheless, if you had a 40-year contribution [with those rates] and a 30-year payout, you would get an annual benefit of \$36,301.



“Once upon a time there was a thing called social security...”

* ACCORDING TO THE SUMMARY OF THE 2012 ANNUAL REPORTS ISSUED BY THE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES (WWW.SSA.GOV/OACT/TRSUM/).

For STRAP to just break even with Social Security, you'd have to drop investment returns to 3 percent, 2.6 percent, and 2 percent for an \$18,000 annual benefit. Now, the likelihood of the S&P dropping down to 3 percent over a 20-year span of time is slim to none. Anything a new system can get for beneficiaries above the current level is a bonus, and it would be difficult to see how our system *couldn't* produce more for the taxpayer than \$18,000 a year.

ISN'T THIS JUST PRIVATIZING SOCIAL SECURITY?

WAGNER: Who does the person managing the investments work for? The government? A private firm?

TULLY: These are private firms that would manage the funds.

WAGNER: That the individual picks?

TULLY: No, that the government picks.

CROOKS: They send it out to the lowest-cost provider, whether it's Fidelity or Vanguard ...

WAGNER: And the fund manager is paid how? On what basis?

CROOKS: Just his execution fee. That's it — so many basis points. Execution is so *de minimis* now that it's under a penny

a share. But if you're Fidelity or Vanguard, the amount of money you're moving is pretty damned good. It's cheaper for us to have execution through these intermediaries than it would be if the government set up its own trading operation.

WAGNER: And you think this would fly with the big investment firms, just on the basis of trades, no management fees?

CROOKS: Absolutely. If you went to E-Trade or Charles Schwab and offered them this, they'd be licking your boots.

GETTING FROM HERE TO THERE

WAGNER: So let's say that we, as a nation, decide STRAP is where we want to go with our old-age retirement plan. How do we get from here to there?

TULLY: Right now, although everyone has a Social Security "account," the money we each pay in Social Security taxes doesn't go into that personal account — it goes into the big Social Security "pool," from which all current benefits are drawn. In order to transition from Social Security to STRAP, we'll have to make up the difference between the amount in the Social Security "pool" today and the total value of what current Social Security account holders have paid into the system over the years.

CROOKS: Our proposal solves everything — but it's not cheap.

WAGNER: So, where will the money come from?

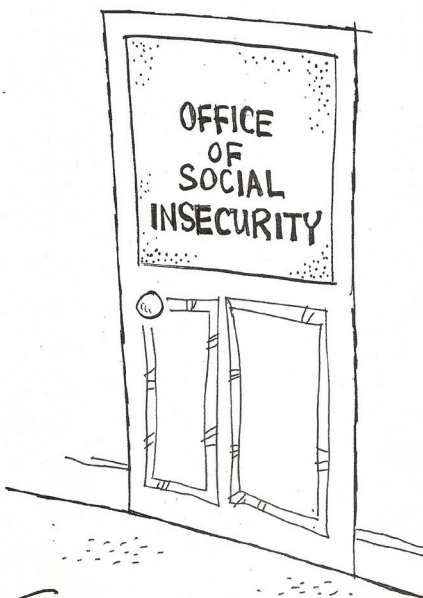
TULLY: Currently, Social Security taxes are withheld only on the first \$106,000 of income. We suggest that the money to cover the Social Security deficit come from lifting that cap for a specified period of time — just until the system is completely charged up.

LIFTING THE CAP

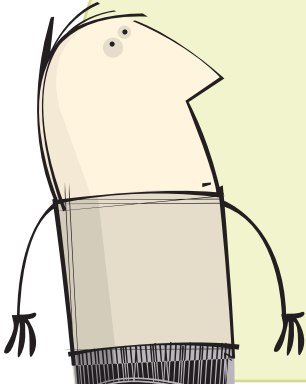
CROOKS: Everybody wants to fix Social Security, but nobody wants to take the bull by the horns and actually do something. It's going to be painful in the short run, but that pain is going to be borne mostly by those most able to bear it — and now I'm talking like a socialist!

WAGNER: And, as you said earlier, that pain would go away as soon as the system was fully funded again. Have you calculated how long it would take, under your plan, to fully fund the Social Security system again so that the cap could come back?

CROOKS: In the first paper I did on this, I figured that in the first four to six years, you would raise half a trillion dollars,



J. STINGER



IS ANYBODY LISTENING?

Over a period of three years, professors Crooks and Tully have presented their thoughts on Social Security solvency and reform six times at the annual conventions of four scholarly societies. Their most recent presentation, at the Academy of Business Research conference last September, won them recognition for Best Session Paper. A mailing last fall to the top candidates for the two major political parties, however, elicited no response.

and that would go a long way toward covering the shortfall. If you got a little more efficient in the administration of the whole thing, the shortfall could be covered more quickly. In the meantime, you can start phasing in the new system.

POLITICS, POLITICS, POLITICS

WAGNER: Have you given any thought about the likelihood of this kind of plan being passed through Congress and signed into law?

CROOKS: The Democrats would love it!

WAGNER: Because it would stabilize Social Security?

TULLY: Without a tax increase!

WAGNER: Except on the higher income earners.

CROOKS: Only in the intermediate term, until the shortfall is covered.

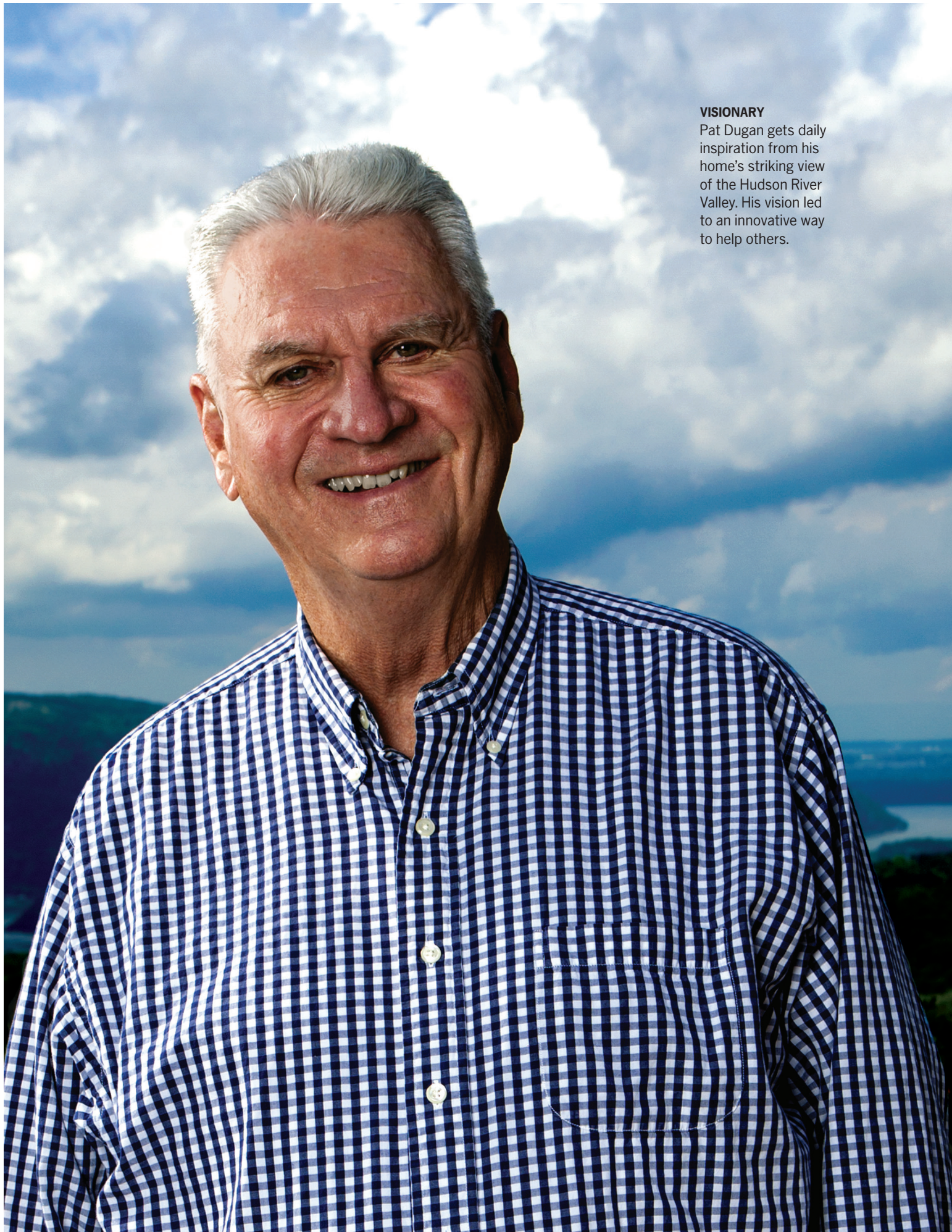
TULLY: The battle we're having right now is, do we cut services and/or increase taxes? Democrats don't want to cut services; Republicans don't want to raise taxes. What we have is a plan to bring stability to Social Security without increasing taxes — except for a very short term — or cutting benefits in some other entitlement program.

WAGNER: Bipartisan? Nonpartisan? How do you two see this proposal?

CROOKS: I'd call it bipartisan, because on the one hand you're raising revenue, and on the other hand you're cutting the program's deficit.

Donald Crooks and Cathyann Tully are associate professors in Wagner College's Department of Business Administration. Tully is director of undergraduate business studies, and Crooks serves as director of business internships and the executive and accelerated MBA programs.





VISIONARY

Pat Dugan gets daily inspiration from his home's striking view of the Hudson River Valley. His vision led to an innovative way to help others.

QUESTION EVERYTHING

BY LAURA BARLAMENT

Pat Dugan '57 has not
merely given to charity.



He's given us all a gift by
creating one of the most
powerful watchdogs in the
world of philanthropy.

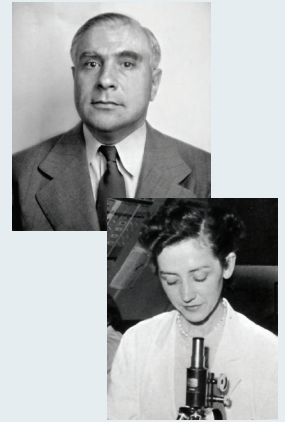
In 1969, Harlem resident Clara Hale took in her first abandoned, drug-addicted baby. That led to another, then another, until this amazing, caring woman, known to all as Mother Hale, became the leader of a major charity, Hale House. At the height of the AIDS crisis in 1985, President Reagan praised her selfless work and gave her the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Thousands of people were touched by Mother Hale's story, and millions of dollars in donations flowed in to Hale House. Some of those gifts came from Pat '57 and Marion Dugan, successful business owners in the New York City metropolitan area. Having lost their first-born son at age 13 to a terrible, wasting genetic disease, they had bigger hearts than most for helping suffering children.



COASTAL NAVIGATOR

Many years before Pat Dugan founded Charity Navigator, he served as a U.S. Coast Guard officer from 1957 to 1961.



WAGNER INFLUENCES

Dean Stern and Bacteriology Professor Kershaw

In 1992, Mother Hale died, and her daughter, Dr. Lorraine Hale, took over the organization. Dr. Hale seemed like the perfect person to continue her mother's legacy, and the donations continued to flow in. The Dugans remained faithful to Hale House, and because their financial circumstances had dramatically changed when Pat's business went public in 1998, they were in a position to do a lot more.

"I became, to be crass, richer by far than I'd ever been, and I wanted to do something to pay back," Pat says. "I'd always been interested in charitable stuff, but just didn't have that much in the way of resources. Because of the public offering, my company doubled in value overnight. This was something that I benefited greatly from, and I wanted to do something with it."

In 2001, however, Lorraine Hale was fired from Hale House. The *New York Daily News* broke the story: The children were being neglected and kept in prison-like conditions, while Dr. Hale collected art, built a luxurious office suite, and borrowed funds donated for the children to renovate her own home.

Pat and Marion started looking more closely at Hale House and other scandal-plagued organizations, such as the United Way of America and Covenant House in New York City.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do with my money," Pat says, "but I knew I didn't want to throw it down the rat hole."

Pat could have hired his own personal advisors to help him find good, reliable, well-run charities. But Pat isn't known as a visionary for nothing. And he didn't forget that many other people had been duped by unscrupulous charities. Most people give based on emotions; Pat wanted people to be able to give based on facts.

Pat, in other words, had discovered his own cause: Giving everyday donors information, so they can make smart giving decisions. Today, that data is available to anyone, for free, through the Charity Navigator website.

Pat and Marion Dugan's home in Garrison, New York, lies secluded up on a ridgeline at the

end of a long, winding dirt driveway, with inspiring views of the Hudson River Valley.

Besides the views, what's striking about their home are the books: stacked on tables and lining the floor-to-ceiling shelves of Pat's study. Leather-bound classics rub shoulders with the latest literary fiction from Ian McEwan and Richard Ford, and the British humorist P.G. Wodehouse keeps company with philosophers, scientists, and historians. On the day of my visit to Garrison, Dugan was working through Jim Holt's *Why Does the World Exist: An Existential Detective Story*, with a dictionary and an encyclopedia of philosophy by his side.

In a way, the house is a picture of Pat Dugan himself: Studious and thoughtful, while also extroverted and funny; sometimes cantankerous, but also deeply caring; a visionary whose favorite pastimes are taking solitary walks, reading good books, and driving his collection of nine bright red and yellow convertible sports cars (although he says it's not a collection, since he does drive them all).

EARLY ESCAPADES

Marion and Pat Dugan on their wedding day, March 8, 1958 (*right*). Known for his humor, Pat Dugan once modeled for an advertisement promoting an alternative to the sitz bath treatment for hemorrhoids (*below*).



Above all, he's a person who follows the charge he heard Wagner College President David Marion Delo make to his freshman class, 60 years ago:

"Question everything"

At the time, he was more than a little skeptical about the value of formal education. "You want me to ask questions?" he recalls thinking. "What a concept!"

Pat Dugan didn't grow up with a lot of books in his home — his family couldn't afford them on his dad's salary with the New York City Water Department. He knew every plumber on Staten Island and the family was invited every year to the "plumbers' ball" — which, true to his Staten Island roots, Dugan pronounces something like "plummahs bawl."

But his family did like to read,

especially his mother; they borrowed books from the library and got hand-me-downs from wealthy cousins. Pat became a reading addict in the second

or third grade, when he caught rheumatic fever and was forced to stay in bed for months. With a cringe, he admits that his favorite books were the Bomba the Jungle Boy youth series, a take-off on Tarzan.

Despite being such an avid reader, young Pat was an indifferent student. He went to the local Catholic schools, but learning there

was all about memorization, "pounding stuff into you," he says now, with a hint of lingering resentment. "Spending a lot of time memorizing stuff that you give back to your teacher is a waste."

By the time he reached high school, at St. Peter's in West Brighton, he spent his free time hanging around on street corners with a bunch of guys whose highest ambition was to get out of school, get a full-time job, and get a car.

"That was all the likes of me and these guys thought about," he says.


Wagner College was a major turning point for Dugan; he calls it "one of the small number of great things that happened to me during my life." Wagner's dean of the college, Adolph Stern, lived around the corner from the Dugans. Pat knew him, but they didn't really have a relationship. Nevertheless, one day when Pat was a high school senior, Dean Stern asked the boy to come and see him. So, Dugan paid him a visit.

"What are your college plans?" asked the dean.

"It's not in the cards," was Dugan's reply. "I had terrible marks in high school, and I have no money."

Dean Stern replied, "How would you like to go to Wagner College?" He offered him admission and a half-tuition scholarship on the spot.

"Dr. Stern opened the door for me and I thought, 'I'll give it a shot,'" says Dugan. "I've often thought, 'How did he ever think about me, a boy around


'I didn't know what I wanted to do with my money, but I knew I didn't want to throw it down the rat hole.'



TRUST “He’s a risk-taker,” Marion Dugan says of her husband, “but it was calculated. He knew what he was doing.”

the corner, and do this wonderful thing for me?” Years later, Marion Dugan revealed to him that Pat’s mother had asked Dr. Stern for his intervention.

Today, Dugan is doing the same sort of thing for Wagner students through a \$1 million endowed scholarship fund for students with academic promise and financial need.

Meanwhile, Dugan came to Wagner with “no clue” about his career path. For his first three semesters, he majored in English. But then he decided that

he wasn’t sure how he could make a living through that course of study and switched to bacteriology, a new major at the College. He flourished, enjoying the coursework and professors like Virgil Markham and Edythe Kershaw.

“Between classes, work, studying, and drinking a beer every once in a while, there was no time [for reading],” he says. He boarded at home and worked all kinds of part-time jobs, from stocking supermarket shelves to installing flagpoles and fences, to pay

for the half of his tuition not covered by Dr. Stern’s scholarship. He found his closest friends among the World War II veterans studying at Wagner on the GI Bill. He added his talent and height to the veterans’ intramural basketball teams and helped to organize them into the Circle K, the male counterpart to the Off Hill Girls Association (better known, Dugan says, as the “Awful Girls Association”).

He also found the time to date Marion, a fellow Staten Islander he had met while she was still in high school at Notre Dame Academy, down Howard Avenue from the Wagner campus. They got married right after he graduated.

Pat decided to seek work in pharmaceutical marketing; but first, to avoid being conscripted into the Army, he enlisted for a three-year stint in the Coast Guard. He quickly qualified as officer of the deck, putting him in charge of a whole ship while it was underway and in port; but when his captain tried to talk him into “shipping over” — i.e., staying in the service — he said no thanks. He chafed at the slow pace of advancement, and he wanted to make more money.

After leaving the Coast Guard, he found a sales position with Pfizer, covering the Boston area. His ambition and personality distinguished him, says his longtime business partner, John Farley.

At the time, Farley was a sales rep for Upjohn, a rival pharmaceutical firm. He heard about Dugan from a physician they both knew. “Have you met Pat Dugan?” the doctor asked Farley. “He’s a big tall guy, and he’s really funny.” Dugan had made a sales call on the doctor, and with great seriousness told him that he was going to play him a recording by an expert in contagious diseases from the University of Palma in Italy. He put his tape player on the doctor’s desk, turned it on, and out came a recording of Dugan warbling a ditty about Pfizer’s name-brand antibiotic to

the tune of “Happy Birthday.”

“Terramycin is good, Terramycin is good, ...”

“So I was looking forward to meeting him, even though we were competitors,” says Farley.

After Dugan completed his MBA at Boston University, he got a job with the advertising agency Dean Burdick Associates in New York City. Farley followed him there, and they each went on to work for other big agencies as well, focused on pharmaceuticals. But they kept talking about “doing something together,” as Farley says. In 1971, Dugan took the leap, quitting his well-paid job with BBDO to start a niche business. Farley joined him, and it quickly grew into a full-scale firm. Within two years, they had surpassed their own first employer, Dean Burdick Associates. Their business grew to encompass four divisions with 70 employees.

One of Dugan’s major coups was redirecting Bayer toward what has become its primary marketing strategy, as “The Wonder Drug” that reduces the risk of heart attacks and strokes. Dugan did not create the tagline, but he was the one who pushed Bayer in that direction, once he started reading about powerful research findings showing that regular consumption of aspirin slashed the risk of stroke and heart attack.

What made Dugan so successful, says Farley, is that he has two sides: the side that relates well to people, and the side that sees what no one else is seeing. On the other hand, when Dugan knows that something is the right thing to do, he will stick by it, no matter what opposition he faces.

So, in the mid-1980s, when Dugan felt like he and his clients were no longer having a meeting of the minds, he decided to develop another division

of the business, which he called Professional Detailing Inc. (now known as PDI). It represented an innovative direction in healthcare services: a contract sales organization, which provides an outsourced sales force for pharmaceutical firms.

At that time, no one else was doing this kind of business, says Nancy Lurker, PDI’s current chief executive.

“What he’s really good at is looking at trends and being able to understand where there is a need in the marketplace,” says Lurker. “The other thing is that he puts his money where his mouth is. He’s a risk-taker.”

After a few years, Dugan proposed to his business partners that he spin off PDI, exchanging it for his shares in Dugan Farley. The partners agreed, and

Dugan became the sole owner of PDI.

In 1998, Dugan took PDI public. It went on the market for \$15 a share and rose to a high of \$121. Last year, PDI had \$126.9 million in revenues. But back in the late 1980s, no one

suspected the business had that much potential — no one, that is, except Pat Dugan.

“He had the vision to take the company public when most people would have thought, ‘I don’t know,’” says John Farley. “He’s always thought a little outside the box.”

Dugan’s vision, risk-taking talent, and basic stubbornness were all key ingredients to the creation and growth of Charity Navigator.

When www.charitynavigator.org went live on the Internet on April 15, 2002, it rated an impressive 1,100 public charities with a system of zero to

four stars, familiar to users of websites from Amazon to Yelp. The ratings were based on financial data publicly available through IRS 990 forms, the informational tax returns that charities are required to file annually.

This did not win it many fans in the sector it was covering.

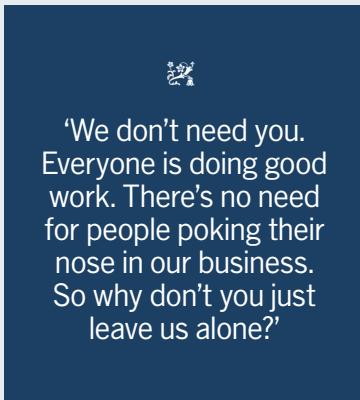
“People from charities, from foundations, anybody involved in the sector, pretty much said, ‘We don’t need you. Everyone is doing good work. There’s no need for people poking their nose in our business. So why don’t you just leave us alone?’” Dugan says. “That was an almost universal feeling amongst people in the sector.”

Their main argument was that Charity Navigator’s rating system reduced a charity’s work to its financial statements, which wasn’t a fair measure.

According to Trent Stamp, Charity Navigator’s first chief executive, Dugan was steadfast in the face of criticism. Even some of his own friends, who sat on the boards of charities that may not have received the highest rating, were annoyed. “Pat was resolute in the idea that this was a good thing, and it would be better for the charitable donor in the long run,” Stamp says. “He didn’t care what kind of heat came, as long as we were being fair in our processes.”

Dugan remains unapologetic about the rating methodology. “We’ve used what we’ve had available,” he says. “Up until fairly recently, our whole rating was based on these financial things about how much money they raised, how the trend was going, how much of a reserve they had, how much they put into programs as opposed to fundraising and overhead. That’s all we had to work with at that point.”

Charities may not have appreciated having their dirty financial laundry exposed, but donors liked the service. Most of the site’s traffic came via word of mouth and public relations efforts, and website usage more than quadrupled in the first year; in 2012, it had more than 6.2 million visitors.





WORDS TO THE WISE DONOR

Tips from www.charitynavigator.org

The Top 10 “Super-Sized Charities” (headed by the American Red Cross at \$3.4 billion, Feeding America at \$1.5 billion, and the Smithsonian Institution at \$1.1 billion) demonstrate why it’s important to pay attention to this sector: fiscal power. Each had total expenses greater than \$800 million in its most recent fiscal year. The combined total expenses of the top 10 are approximately \$10 billion. The entire charitable sector is estimated to be worth as much as \$2 trillion.

The Top 10 “Charities Overpaying Their For-Profit Fundraisers” each spends more than 50 percent of its budget paying for-profit fundraising professionals to solicit your hard-earned money.

The 10 Best Practices of Savvy Donors includes, “Share your intentions and make a long-term commitment.” Why? Smart donors see themselves as partners in the charity’s efforts to bring about change.

How to Stop Solicitations by Mail includes, “Refrain from giving small donations to many charities.” Small donations, such as \$25, barely cover the costs the charity incurred in soliciting the gift. To recoup those costs, many charities will simply sell the donor’s name to another charity doing similar work.

DATA ACCESSED JUNE 28, 2013

Media outlets started promoting it; *Time*, *Kiplinger’s*, *Forbes*, and many others endorsed it.

The rating system is not as blunt an instrument as some critics would lead you to believe, if you take the time to dig into the details behind it; and the Charity Navigator staff is diligent about refining the site’s methodologies and expanding its offerings. The first big revision of the rating system came in 2008, when the IRS changed the 990 form, responding to pressure from the public and from Congress to make sure public charities used donations responsibly. The new 990 information, plus additional research performed by the Charity Navigator staff, allowed the site to add measures of “transparency and accountability” to the rating system. These include board membership, executive salaries, audit information, and other factors.

And this refining process is far from over.

In January of this year, Pat Dugan was in the offices of Charity Navigator, along with the current CEO, Ken Berger, who has been with the organization since 2008. A veteran of the nonprofit service sector, Berger has an easy rapport with his boss, joking about how they are both wearing fashionable sweater vests.

Twelve years into this project, Dugan’s enthusiasm and commitment to it are undimmed. “When I bump into somebody who is educated, well-informed, and all that good stuff, and they’ve never heard of Charity Navigator, it’s like a dagger in my heart,” he says, holding a fist to his chest.

In this nondescript office building in Glen Rock, New Jersey, young people are working in every nook and cranny. They recently increased the staff to the grand number of 12 — in double digits for the first time — ramping up to launch three huge new features to the website: increasing the number of public charities



FREE ONLINE

ADVICE

Charity Navigator rates more than 6,000 charities and provides loads of useful tips for 6 million plus users.

rated on the site from the current 6,000 to 10,000; adding an informational page (not a rating) for each one of the 1.8 million legitimate nonprofits registered with the IRS; and lastly and most significantly, incorporating a new dimension to their rating system, a quest that Pat likes to call “the Holy Grail.”

“We are now working on something that is just leading the league, and everybody admits that we are on the forefront,” Dugan explains. “That is evaluating the outcomes and programs.”

In other words, instead of using indirect measures of a charity’s effectiveness — its finances, transparency, and accountability — Charity Navigator will look at each charity’s results — what it achieves with its programming and spending.

To rate charities by how well they achieve their mission seems like an obvious choice. But there are two big problems with moving in this direction: 1. Charities’ outcomes are not always easy to measure, and 2. Most charities have made no effort to measure their outcomes.

It’s a widely acknowledged failing in nonprofit operations. “A very low percentage of charities possess any measurable information about their results or effectiveness — much less data that are compiled by an independent party,” wrote Ben Gose in the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* in April

2009. Gose cited Charity Navigator’s attempts to get at this information — but a survey sent out to 110 organizations got only 15 replies.

At the same time, the biggest criticism of Charity Navigator’s rating system is that it doesn’t take outcomes into account. “So they’re putting us into this impossible situation — to measure something that they don’t provide,” says Berger.

Warming to the topic, Berger continues, “So while you’re throwing stones, the irony is: Back atcha! Now, own up. You want us to measure results? A. Start tracking it, and B. Once you start tracking it, publicly report that information. And then we’ll talk. Then we’ll get serious about measuring results. So the game-changer here is we’re going to incentivize charities to do the most important thing about their work: to share it with the public.”

Dugan nods and chuckles as Berger’s voice rises with indignity. In January, Charity Navigator unveiled its preliminary work on this “third dimension of intelligent giving,” as they call it.

In the end, Charity Navigator is a lot like its founder: It may have its flaws and limitations, but you really can’t find a chink in its basic sincerity and integrity.

“The biggest thing that always impressed me is that [Pat] is uncompromising in his ethics,” says Trent Stamp. “He insisted that we do things the right way. He knew that if we were going to evaluate charities, people would be looking at us, and he made sure we were held to a higher standard.”

But Charity Navigator’s mission is bigger than providing a fair rating system. When donors direct their charitable dollars toward more effective charities, it will make the whole sector more effective, and therefore make a bigger dent in the problems charities are addressing — hunger, homelessness, health, or scores of other causes.

The goal is to change the donor paradigm from charitable giving to social investing, “to move away from giving something and just walking away from it,” explains Berger. “You’re investing and you want to see some return, some social value, as a return on that investment.”

That mission attracts smart and idealistic staff to the organization, says Dugan. “We can’t afford to pay them a lot, and many of them have advanced degrees,” he says. “They’re less interested in the money that they could earn someplace else. They want to change the world.”

Charity Navigator still takes a lot of hits from people in the charitable sector. At the same time, says Trent Stamp, who is now the CEO of the Eisner Foundation, “I think we’ve created an environment where people understand that there are good charities and there are bad charities; not every charity is the same.

“And now major charities are the first to trumpet their Charity Navigator four-star rating and tell people, ‘We’re doing better work than our peers, we’re a better destination for your charitable dollars.’

“[Pat Dugan’s] vision will live on for generations in the nonprofit world, and he should be very proud of it.” ■

Bouncing Back



The highest-profile recruit in Wagner basketball history rediscovers his hoop dreams in a new environment

By Cormac Gordon

Sometimes it's all about rebounding. And not just on the basketball court.

Dwaun Anderson '16 understands that now.

In the spring of 2011, the soft-spoken Wagner sophomore was a high school hoops star in tiny Suttons Bay, Michigan, one of the villages that dot Lake Michigan 300 miles north of Detroit. He had just been named Mr. Basketball,

an honor awarded to the best senior high school player each year in that basketball-crazed state. Even better, the 6-foot-4 teenager was on his way to play at national powerhouse Michigan State University, a program coming off back-to-back Final Four appearances.

It was, he said, "a dream come true."

Back then, Anderson allowed himself to think that he might even become one of the few Native Americans to make it to the NBA. Then real life intervened in the cruelest of ways.

Anderson's mother, 42-year-old Mary Lynn Anderson, a full-blooded

member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, died in May 2011, following a long struggle with alcoholism. For a boy whose father was never really a part of his life, the loss was devastating.

A few weeks after Mary Lynn Anderson was buried in a modest plot on the Indian reservation grounds, Dwaun left the cherry orchards and wooded trails of Suttons Bay, and traveled 150 miles south for summer classes at Michigan State.

But Anderson wasn't ready. Not for the huge campus, or the study regimen.

Even basketball, his lifetime passion, had become a chore. "When I got there I was going through the toughest part of my life," he says. "I was angry, and I started thinking I was losing my love of the game."

Out of a sense of desperation as much as anything else, Anderson made a difficult personal decision. He walked away from the Spartans.

In this case, leaving school a couple of weeks before freshman orientation wasn't some unnoticed change of direction by another confused teenage athlete. This was the state's reigning Mr. Basketball leaving the preeminent program in that part of the country. It was a big deal, greeted with the media frenzy that accompanies such movements.

But it was also something the bruised, distracted Anderson felt he had to do on a very personal level.

Dan Hurley, Wagner's coach at the time, heard about Anderson's situation and reached out to the grief-stricken kid. Anderson had never heard of Wagner, but he came for a visit, even while more marquee basketball programs were sending out feelers.

Anderson liked what he saw: a small school with a country-like campus and a rising basketball program that fit what he needed at that point in his life. In December of 2011, Anderson arrived as the highest-profile basketball recruit in Wagner history.

It didn't take long for his personal life to begin changing for the better. Anderson was not yet eligible to play, but he could practice with his new teammates, living with them in the dorms and hanging with them in down time.

"Dwaun started adjusting, I thought, right away," says Bashir Mason, a former Hurley assistant who was named head coach in April 2012. "He was a kid who had a lot to figure out, but it was like he'd been looking for a new environment and a chance to start over."

When the season began last September, two things became clear immediately: Anderson was an enormous talent, extraordinarily quick and athletic. He was also raw and inexperienced, and not all that confident for someone of his abilities.

In the early part of the schedule, Anderson struggled shooting the ball, and he sometimes missed defensive rotations. He lacked nothing in effort, but execution was at times a problem. "I was nervous," he admits. "I didn't know what to expect, and when I had a few bad games in a row I began to lose confidence."

Mason's prescription for his new player? "Coach told me to just keep playing, not to get down."

As the weeks progressed, Anderson was gaining a renewed sense of himself. "I came to be in a completely different place from where I'd been," he says. "I was back to being comfortable, where just being happy was a given again."

In part, he credits being at Wagner with that change. "This is a good place for me," Anderson says. "I have a lot of friends and not a lot of distractions. It's really worked out."

Toward the end of Wagner's 19-12 season, Anderson's game improved markedly. Over the last 10 games, the small forward averaged almost seven points and four rebounds per game in just 16 minutes of playing time. In a truly unusual stat for someone his size, Anderson registered seven explosive blocks in the final four games.

Mason believes the final weeks were a small tease of what's to come. "At the end of the season, Dwaun was just beginning to get his feet under him," he says. "I believe before it's over he will be everything he and everyone else thought he could be."

the **A** List

Water polo won the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference regular season championship for first time since 2009 and advanced to the MAAC championship game. They lost to Iona, but ended the season with a 26-11 record, the most wins in school history. • **Chris Radmonovich** was named MAAC Coach of the Year and **Jess Lundgren** '16 was dubbed Rookie of the Year. • **Football linebacker C. O. Prime** '13 signed an NFL free agent contract with the Indianapolis Colts. • **Zachary Spector** '12 M'13 placed first in the 10K at the NEC Outdoor Track & Field Championships, and second in the 5K, while **Emily Pereira** '15 won the 800 meters. • **Swimming and diving** came in second at the 2013 NEC championships, the team's best finish in 10 years. **Amanda Lucia** '16 won the 200 fly and **Sarah Menendez** '14 placed first in the 100 free. Coach **Colin Shannahan** was named NEC Coach of the Year. • **Women's lacrosse** midfielder **Shea Gegan** '16 capped her brilliant first season with being named to the All-NEC Second Team and the All-NEC Rookie Team. • In **baseball**, outfielder **Ian Miller** '14 set a record for stolen bases, was named to the All-NEC First Team, and was then selected by the Seattle Mariners in the MLB First-Year Player Draft.



AlumniLink

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



'HAWK TALK
Matthew Alvo '08, Melanie Scotto '08, Cassandra Brooks '84, and Christian Miller '84 M'88 connect at the Cornell Club.

For Ellen Huffman '14, it was “a unique experience, not just to meet professionals in my field, but Wagner professionals with an interest in my personal success as a fellow Seahawk.”

“It was a great opportunity to meet both recent and longtime graduates to pick their brains about how they ended up in the industry they work in, and the steps they took to get there,” said Roger Ricketts, an MBA candidate at Wagner. “I hope to be able to come back to Wagner at some point in the future to share with the students the way the alumni did with us.”

The Student-Alumni Career Conversations event will become an annual tradition. Under new leadership from Geoffrey Hempill, senior associate dean and director, the Center for Academic and Career Engagement will re-launch the alumni mentoring program this fall. There are many ways alumni can participate, such as one-on-one conversations, networking events, and mock interview panels.

➔ For more information, visit wagner.edu/cace/career-development/alumni.

Wagner Networks

Alumni pass along words of wisdom and lend a helping hand

Alumni spanning class years from 1960 to 2012 shared their experiences with more than 100 Wagner students at the Student-Alumni Career Conversations event on April 30 at the Cornell Club in Manhattan. The event was co-hosted by the Alumni

Association and the Center for Academic and Career Engagement.

With résumés and business cards in hand, the students worked their way around the room to meet the 50 alumni volunteers, representing 14 career fields and organizations including Teachers College, Merck, Merrill Lynch, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York state government offices, and the U.S. Treasury Department.

“Talking to alumni from different industries was a great opportunity to learn from other people’s career choices,” said Kayla Thomas '13.



{ FLASHBACK }

Professor Frances Bock, Psychology, 1976

Frances Bock taught psychology at Wagner from 1972 to 1980, when she had to leave because of the College’s “financial exigency,” as she delicately puts it. She went on to complete postdoctoral studies at the Albert Ellis Institute,

had a successful private practice in Manhattan and Long Island, taught at Hofstra and St. John’s, and retired in 2002. A book she co-authored in 1989, *Coping with Alzheimer’s: A Caregiver’s Emotional Survival Guide*, is still in print. “I really enjoyed

teaching at Wagner,” she recalls. “The students were fabulous and really interested in everything.” She still keeps in touch with a few of them, including Hal Theurer '79, who put us in touch with her.

BARREL TASTING Warren Procci '68 and Liz Cardiello '06 M'07 tap straight into the source.



Travel with Wagner Alumni

Sonoma provided exclusive access; next up: China

In March, alumni and guests got the royal treatment during “the Ultimate Sonoma Wine Country Experience,” a five-day trip through this picturesque region. Alumni tasted rare wines, plus meals by some of the country’s top chefs, and conversed with winemakers. Making it possible was our trip advisor, Stan Bishop '65, and our sommelier and guide Sandi Lucchesi, principal with A Sense of Wine.

The tour started off with a bang, with a sabered champagne presentation at the Jean-Charles Boisset Tasting Room. We sampled 56 wines at eight vineyards, including wine straight from the barrel at

Stryker Sonoma Winery and at E. & J. Gallo, and behind-the-scenes access to Jordan Winery and Williams Selyem Winery. Aficionados like Warren Procci '68 had fun blending their own wines at Chateau St. Jean, and seeing the bottling process at the Francis Ford Coppola Winery.

Next up in alumni travel? China, September 2–14, 2014. The Alumni Association has partnered with Odysseys Unlimited, a respected tour operator known for its small-group tours for alumni associations nationwide. The trip is limited to 20 travelers to ensure access to many of the sites, which include (subject to change) the Great Wall, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace, the Terra Cotta Army, the pandas at the Chongqing Zoo, a cruise along the Yangtze River, the Ghost City of Fengdu, and the Three Gorges of the Yangtze River. We will also spend time with local residents in their homes, visit a local school, and explore open markets and shopping.

At the time of this writing, costs have not been finalized, but full details of the trip, including early registration discounts, are available online at wagner.edu/alumni-friends, or by calling the Office of Alumni Relations at 718-390-3224.

— *Kenneth Lam,*
Director of Alumni Relations



BACK HOME

Robert Lawrence M'66 came to Wagner for a master's degree and stayed until 1973 as a full-time English instructor. He then returned to his home in Louisville, Kentucky, where he had a long career at Jefferson Community and Technical College. He now lives in New York again, and visited campus in April to give a painting by Tiia Pustrom Aarismaa '65 to President Guarasci.



FLASHBACK RESPONSES



Thanks to Barbara Belleli '99, our mystery caller from last issue's “Flashback” photo was identified as Jedediah “A. J.” Bila '00. Perhaps she was making one of the last calls ever placed on those now practically extinct pay phones. Someone who devoted many years to their care was Kurt

Schroder M'69, a retiree of the New York Telephone Company. “I installed and repaired many pay phones in Brooklyn and Staten Island,” he wrote, “as well as land line phones, which worked during electrical outages!” He never serviced the phones at Wagner College, but he did spend a few

summers inspecting the many phone booths along the Coney Island Boardwalk and repairing those jammed by sticky, sandy coins.

Do you have ideas for “Flashback”? Contact us at 718-390-3147 or laura.barlament@wagner.edu.

Reunion Weekend, June 7–9



CAMPUS CHAT Richard and Carin Guarasci spend time with alumni.



IT'S BEEN TOO LONG Tinka Harvard '87 and Ernie Jackson '87 reunite.



CONNECTING Educator Daymon Yizar '82 and Carin Guarasci, director of New Educators at Wagner, have a lot to share.



CATCHING UP Terry and Ruth Healy '63 Furhovden greet Phyllis Ekeland '67 and George '63 Dale at the 50th reunion dinner.



BACK TO SCHOOL Alumni stroll the campus (above), and children enjoy fun chemistry lessons (left) in Megerle Science Building with Professors Joseph West and Valeria Stepanova (not pictured).



Upcoming Events

Alumni Association

SEPTEMBER 28, 10 A.M.

Homecoming Fall Festival

Wagner vs. Bryant kickoff, 1 p.m.
Sutter Oval and Wagner College Stadium

Campus Events

OCTOBER 25–27

Family Weekend

Music

SEPTEMBER 22, 4 P.M.

Dr. Ronald Cross Memorial

Special Service and Interment.
Music by the Wagner College Choir.
Park Avenue Christian Church,
1010 Park Ave., New York, N.Y.

OCTOBER 18, 5 P.M.

Italian Idol Singing Contest

Music Performance Center

OCTOBER 27, 4 P.M.

300th Anniversary Concert

Wagner College Choir at Zion Lutheran Church, Oldwick, N.J.

NOVEMBER 3, 4 P.M.

Viva Italia! Finale Concert

Faculty, Italian Idol Winners,
Treble Concert Choir.
Music Performance Center

NOVEMBER 10, 4 P.M.

Fall Choral Concert

Trinity Lutheran Church,
309 St. Paul's Ave., Staten Island

NOVEMBER 17

3 P.M.

Fall Jazz Ensemble Concert

Main Hall Auditorium

8:30 P.M.

Vivaldi's Gloria

Wagner College Choir at Carnegie Hall

DECEMBER 4, 8 P.M.

Vocal Jazz Set

Stretto, Soloists, Strait Ahead Jazz Quartet. Music Performance Center

1/9097

Alumni Association Honors

The 2013 annual awards recognize leaders in serving the College and the community and in professional achievement

DECEMBER 8, 3 P.M.

Concert Band's Fall Concert
Main Hall Auditorium

DECEMBER 9, 4 P.M.

College Choirs' Holiday Concert
Trinity Lutheran Church,
309 St. Paul's Ave., Staten Island

Theatre

OCTOBER 2-13

Little Shop of Horrors
Wagner College Main Stage

OCTOBER 8-13

Scab
Wagner College Stage One

NOVEMBER 13-24

Romeo and Juliet
Wagner College Main Stage

NOVEMBER 19-24

Zombie Prom
Wagner College Stage One



For more information, registration, and tickets:

Alumni Relations 718-390-3224

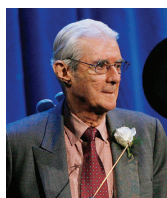
Music Department 718-390-3313

Theatre Box Office 718-390-3259



Fred Lange '53 H'06 was named the John "Bunny" Barbes '39 and Lila T. Barbes '40 Wagner Alumni Laureate. He is president of Lange Financial Services, a money management firm that he founded in 1972.

Elected to the Wagner Board of Trustees in 1995, he has generously used his expertise to help the College address crucial, long-term money management issues. He was named a Lifetime Trustee in 2007.



Harold Archinal '50 is the 2013 Distinguished Graduate of Wagner College. A history major, he had a successful 34-year career at Walt Disney's Buena Vista International in the area of international film

distribution. Starting out as a clerk for the Buena Vista Distribution Company in 1954, he became president of Buena Vista International in 1972, a post he held until his retirement in 1988. In 2009, Archinal was named a Disney Legend.



Keith Giglio '85 was named a Wagner Alumni Fellow in English. A successful writer for film and television, he now teaches at the S. I. Newhouse School of Public Communications

at Syracuse University and previously taught screenwriting for the UCLA Writers' Program. As president of Laughing Gas Productions, he helps new screenwriters develop their material.



Jodi Pulice '78 was named a Wagner Alumni Fellow in business. In 1996, she founded JRT Realty, the nation's largest certified woman-owned commercial real estate firm. Her leasing and sales transactions exceed \$2

billion. She is currently responsible for managing a 13 million-square-foot portfolio for TIAA-CREF, and is a member of the leasing team for One World Trade Center.



Lisa Krawciw '10 M'12 received the Wagner Alumni Key, which recognizes alumni of the last decade. A volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, soup kitchens, and the rebuilding effort in Haiti,

Krawciw's commitment to civic engagement is an inspiration to alumni and students.



John Iasparro '72 M'76 and Henry "Hank" Murphy '63 M'69 jointly received the Kevin Sheehy '67 M'70 M'92 H'99 Alumni Leadership Medal for their service to the Alumni Association.

Iasparro helped create the Wagner Athletics Hardwood Club and is co-chair and a longtime member of the Athletics Hall of Fame Committee. Murphy, a retired public school principal, is a founding benefactor of New Educators at Wagner (NEW) and serves on its



Advisory Board. Both honorees have served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors and have led many fundraising drives at the College. In 2011, Murphy and his wife, Margaret, donated a sports art and memorabilia collection to the College.



Dr. Ruth Qualben received the Reverend Lyle Guttu Award for spiritual contributions to Wagner. Continuing the legacy of promoting interfaith dialogue established by her late husband, Paul Qualben '44,

and his brother, Rev. Dr. Philip Qualben, she supports Wagner's Faith in Life series and the Qualben Seminar: Conversations on Religion and Spirituality.



Mary Caracappa '82 and **Anthony Hurtado '79** were honored with the 2013 Certificate of Appreciation for their commitment to Wagner students.

Caracappa, managing director in Morgan Stanley's Firm Strategy and Execution Division, and Hurtado, a healthcare information technology entrepreneur, have been instrumental in helping students navigate the career exploration and job search process.



1942

Carl Heilsberg '43 wrote in memory of his wife, **Bernice "Mickey" Mikkelsen Aldrich Heilsberg**, who passed away on November 15, 2012.

He noted that, after he and Mickey captained the 1941–42 men's and women's fencing teams at Wagner, he left Wagner to broaden his horizons at American University, where he earned a degree in public administration. After many years apart, Carl started a "postal relationship" with Mickey, which culminated in their marriage on April 25, 2010, in Rapid City, S.D. They lived in Maine, where Carl had retired as a superintendent of schools.

1944

Paul G. Alberti has retired

after 66 years as an ordained pastor. He served in New York; New Jersey; Petaling Jaya, Malaysia; and a retreat center in Londonderry, Vt.

1949

Michael Nicolais was inducted into the Curtis High School (Staten Island) Hall of Fame in April by the school's Association of Alumni and Friends. Mike is a member of the Curtis class of 1943. He received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star for his Army service in Europe after his high school graduation. After graduating from Wagner with a degree in accounting, he went to work for Clark Estates, which manages the personal assets of descendants of Singer Sewing Co. co-founder Edward C. Clark, as well as

the more than \$440 million in assets of the Clark Foundation in Cooperstown, N.Y. He retired from the presidency of Clark Estates in 1991, and then became senior managing director of the investment firm Carret & Co. At the beginning of this year, he joined another firm, Wall Street Access, where he is managing director.

1950

Mary Carlucci retired in 1997 after 45 years as a kindergarten teacher in the New York City public school system. She also earned an M.A. from Hunter College and a professional diploma from Teachers College, Columbia University. **Lou DeLuca '59** wrote to the *Staten Island Advance* about **Jim Gilmartin**, who died in Pocono Pines, Pa., on December 23, 2012:

"Jim was a true gentleman and an outstanding basketball player at Wagner. ... Jim even played on the football team until a game where he had a tooth knocked out. ... Gentleman Jim Gilmartin will be missed." **Bernice Hanson** has been retired from teaching since 1998 and lives in New Hampshire. **Florence T. Capobianco Meade** wrote earlier this year, "I now have a great-grandson, age 13 months, and a great-granddaughter on the way. I'm still in the 'Boogie-Down' Bronx."

1951

Emil Cenci and his wife, Adeline, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They live in Marlboro, N.J., where they celebrated with their children and 11 grandchildren.

Keep in Touch!

Email: alumni@wagner.edu

Web: wagner.edu/alumni

Mail: Alumni Office, Reynolds House, Wagner College, One Campus Road, Staten Island, NY 10301

Deadlines: This issue reflects news received by June 1. The submission deadline for the Fall 2013 issue is October 1.

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.



The Brockmann family outfitted in Wagner class of 1952 shirts.

1960

Robert D. Dehaven is the co-founder of a medical device firm, Rimidi. It has produced a software application, Rimidi Glucose Manager, that helps treat types I and II diabetes.

Malaysia in 1968–77, a hospital social worker from 1980 to 1999, and a program director for the Alzheimer's Association from 1991 to 2006. She lives in Pittsburgh and is a lay minister.

1961

Elaine A. Dively married in 1961 and has two children and five grandchildren. She was a missionary to

1962

William F. Schmitz has been substitute teaching ever since he retired, 14 years ago. He is also vice president of the fastest-

1952 & '53

Fred J. Brockmann '52 and **Lee Schriever Brockmann '53** have been married since the day after Fred graduated from Wagner, June 8, 1952. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their children and grandchildren in California. Everyone wore a Wagner class of 1952 T-shirt, ordered for the occasion by their daughter Carolee Gravina. Fred and Lee live in Sarasota, Fla.

1954

Wanda Schweizer Praisner '54 M'57 read and signed books at the AWP Convention in Boston in March, where her latest book of poetry, *Where the Dead Are* (Cavankerry Press), made its debut. AWP is the Association of Writers and Writing Programs, the largest literary conference in North America.

Crib Notes

Class of 2034

Some of the newest faces to join the Wagner family



1. Alexandra Sulton Adinolfi '06 and her husband, Paul, announce the birth of Athan Lau on May 23.

2. Kara Plant McEachern '06 and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of Molly Virginia on March 4.

3. Nicole Filippazzo Giammarino '07 and her husband, Matthew, had their first child, Natalie Harper, on April 15.

We'd love to see your baby's face.
Please see opposite page for publication guidelines.



SMALL WORLD Jennifer Wright '09 and a few of the children she helps care for in Kenya, May 2013.

25 Years Old, With 50 Dependents

Jennifer Wright '09 starts a children's home in Kenya

"It has taken a long time to get to where we are," says Jennifer Wright '09 of the program she founded to help impoverished children in the developing world, the HEAL Raising Our World Foundation.

Yet it was only six years ago that she was sitting in her dorm room at Wagner College, researching how to start a nonprofit. Today, HEAL owns 14 acres of land in the Central Highlands of Kenya, is halfway through building a children's home, is already caring for about 50 orphans aged 3 to 19, and has started a secondary school.

And, Wright says, her vision is to open children's homes all over the world.

Wright came to Wagner with a heart for African children and for changing the world. She double majored in international affairs and French studies, and she participated in Wagner's civic engagement program. In high school, she had volunteered at an orphanage in Zimbabwe. As a college student, she saw a flyer on a Main Hall bulletin board, advertising the Global Volunteer Network. She and her roommate, Christina Lamb '08 (now Christina Perez), pursued the opportunity and spent January of 2007 volunteering at a state-run orphanage in Kenya.

Wright was appalled at the conditions there, where the children were undernourished, largely unsupervised, and lacking in love. "After I went to Kenya," she says, "I just felt called to build an orphanage."

Several Wagner alumni have helped HEAL get off the ground – Perez is the board secretary, Kristie Scherrer '10 is an active volunteer, and Seneca Smith '09 has helped with the website and marketing.

Wright admits that it hasn't been easy – especially with the recession and her unfamiliarity with Kenyan culture. "There have been times where it would have been much easier to give it up," she says. "But when you're with those kids and realize the difference you make in their lives, that's the motivating factor."



You can follow Jennifer Wright's work at www.healraisingourworld.org.



growing and largest Sons of the American Revolution chapter in New Jersey.

1963

Charles Gravenstine spent the fall semester of 2012 teaching three courses at the Lumen Christi Institute in Arusha, Tanzania. **Virginia L. Scott Llewellyn** wrote that she is retired and "truly enjoying the freedom to do as I choose every day!" She lives in Riverhead, N.Y.

1965

John Brockway had an aortic heart valve replacement and is feeling great. He took a "fantastic" three-week trip to Alaska. His wife, Betsy, is now retired and loving it. They have five grandchildren and live in Pawling, N.Y.

1966

Rob Hoff has chaired the psychology department at Mercyhurst University in Erie, Pa., since 1969. He has also hosted jazz and world music programs on his area's NPR affiliate, WQLN radio, since 1973. **Gordon Reinertsen** retired after 42 years in the ministry. He was pastor of St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Atlanta, Ga., for 38 years.

1967

Margo Astroth wrote in December 2012, "With both a little trepidation and much joy, I retired in September from Scripps

WANTED:

Alumni who remember
English Professor Willard Maas

Wagner Magazine is preparing a story about Professor Maas (1958–63), *Wagner Literary Magazine*, and related topics. If you have memories you'd be willing to share, please contact Lee Manchester at lee.manchester@wagner.edu or 718-420-4504.



Mercy Hospital in San Diego, where I headed up a mental health team for several years. Just recently published an online education course, ENA: Handling Psychiatric Emergencies: Suicide Assessment. I'm going to hold on to my advanced nursing license for now. In the meantime, Dennis and I are traveling, first to Japan and Kauai, and now cross country by car to see grandchildren in West Virginia and visit presidential libraries along the way." In January, **Stan Jay M'67**, president of Mandolin Brothers Ltd., hosted a class of Wagner students in the arts administration course *Managing a Non-Profit Organization in the 21st Century*. The discussion included how Stan started a (for-profit) business; made it world famous among superstar performers like Dylan, McCartney,

Harrison, Springsteen, Buffett, and Mitchell; and kept it successful for more than 40 years. Stan is considered one of the world's experts in American fretted instruments. **Russ Johnson** took the gold medal in the 20th Annual New England Open Taekwondo Championship. A fifth-degree black belt who once taught self-defense classes at Wagner, Russ competed in the men's 43-and-over forms division. He continues his career as a professional watercolor artist, teaching workshops throughout the year in Maine and New Jersey. His art website is www.rhjart.com.

1968

Al Lambert '68 M'77 was featured in the *New York Times* on March 29. The story, "Toyotas and Torch Songs" by Corey Kilgannon, begins this

way: "Al Lambert, Staten Island's man of cars and song, can sell you a used Toyota by day and give you 'Summer Wind' with his big band that evening." Comparing Al's look and sound to Mel Torme, Kilgannon continues, "For more than 50 years, he has held parallel — and equally successful — careers: car salesman and nightclub singer." Al is with Manfredi Chevrolet on Hylan Boulevard in Staten Island. **Phyllis Vogel Schwartz** lives in Frederick, Md., with her husband, Dr. Gary Schwartz. Both are retired, and Phyllis volunteers at the Literacy Council of Frederick. She has an MBA in management and a supervisory degree in education.

1970

Peter McClintock retired after almost 42 years of federal service. For the past 13 years, Peter served as the deputy inspector general of the U.S. Small Business Administration. He lives in Fairfax, Va.

1971

Burton W. Wilcke M'71 was appointed by Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to serve on the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee.

1972

Joan Macaluso retired as

a teacher of English as a Second Language after 35 years with the Department of Education of New York City. She says her years at Wagner were the best of her life. Lexis Nexis featured **Bob Mazur** in a series of podcasts, "Interview with a Secret Agent: An Insider View of Money Laundering and Its Global Effects." Bob is a former special agent for the U.S. Customs Service and the author of *The Infiltrator: My Secret Life Inside the Dirty Banks Behind Pablo Escobar's Medellin Cartel* (2009). George Films Ltd. acquired the movie rights for the book, and a script is in the works.

1973

Along with **Lonnie Brandon Jr. '72, Toni King Whitlock** returned to the Wagner campus on April 10 for a social justice dialogue focused on the 1970 student protests at Wagner. Toni left Wagner and finished her degree at Adelphi University. She also earned a master's in educational administration and supervision at Montclair State University. A retired educator, she remains involved with social justice issues through her volunteer and paid educational consulting work in New Jersey. Her focus is on bridging the gaps created by political, economic, and educational inequities that result in achievement gaps.

Jennifer Ruvolo '07

With Bloomberg in the Bullpen

CLAIM TO FAME: As senior programs and communications manager for the Office of the First Deputy Mayor, Jennifer Ruvolo '07 reports every day to the “bullpen” in New York City Hall – a place of which *New York Magazine* has said, “Power and influence in the city stop here.” The bullpen is a large, high-ceilinged, open room filled with about 50 equally sized desks, including Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s in the center, and Ruvolo’s a couple seats away.

PRO SCRIBBLER: Writing is a big part of Ruvolo’s job. She works on official correspondence, helps create publications like annual reports, and is the Mayor’s Office liaison for written content produced by the National September 11 Memorial & Museum. She works on major initiatives, and also writes thank-you notes to kids who send trophies to the mayor.

ANTHROPOLOGIST AT HEART: Ruvolo’s passion is anthropology, because it’s about connecting with people and helping people. She came to Wagner to study anthropology, influenced by her mentor, anthropology professor Gordon McEwan. Wagner’s focus on experiential learning – she interned with the New-York Historical Society and the American Museum of Natural History – was key to her future success. After her graduation, she worked for the New York City Sports Commission before going into special event planning for the Mayor’s Office, which led to her current job.

INSPIRATIONS: “I’m a native Staten Islander, and the proud daughter of a public school teacher and a firefighter – two incredible people who have dedicated their lives to serving New York City,” says Ruvolo. She also says her coworkers in the bullpen inspire her every day. “There’s no ‘can’t,’ there’s no ‘That’s not possible.’ It’s, ‘Will it help people?’” Finally, there are her fellow Wagner alums – people like her sister, Victoria Ruvolo '05, a butcher; Eugene Statnikov '07, a doctoral student in public health at Imperial College in London; and Jennifer Macaluso '07, jewelry creator (look up Hey, Dollface! on Etsy). Says Ruvolo, “Knowing that Wagner grads are committing themselves fully to their passions helps motivate me to go the extra mile and do the best that I possibly can.”





Tim LaCroix and Gene Barfield '75 at their wedding ceremony.

1975

Joan Arnold was elected vice chair of the American College of Tax Counsel, a professional association that recognizes tax lawyers for their contributions to the profession. Joan is a partner and chair of the Tax Practice Group of Pepper Hamilton LLP in Philadelphia. In a groundbreaking ceremony, **Gene Barfield** married his partner of 30 years, Tim LaCroix, on March 15 in Harbor Springs, Mich. They were the first same-sex couple to marry legally within the state of Michigan. The wedding took place at the headquarters of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, just after the tribal chairman signed legislation permitting same-sex marriage. Tim is a tribal citizen, and Gene became his legally wed non-tribal spouse under the laws of the tribe. Gene and Tim were invited by President Obama

to attend a reception at the White House on June 13 in celebration of LGBT Pride Month. Both are Navy veterans, and they met while in the service. Gene is a graduate of the Navy Nuclear Power Program and served aboard a fleet ballistic missile submarine and at a Navy air squadron. After concluding their military service, the couple moved to Vermont and became active in civil rights for the LGBT community. Gene earned a degree in historic preservation and worked in that field in both Vermont and Florida. Gene and Tim moved to a family farm outside of Boyne City, in Tim's home state of Michigan, 15 years ago. Gene is retired but continues to work on preservation projects and on the farm's gardens and trees.

1977

Carol Driscoll '77 and Jim '79 Kagdis were featured in a *New York Times* story

on December 21, 2012. It began, "Back in 1980, three sisters — Susan, Carol and Beth Driscoll — were married in three separate ceremonies. Thirty-two years later, they are all still married." The reporter, Samantha Storey, interviewed the husbands, the sisters, and their mother "about their secrets to making a marriage last."

1978

Nick Kvasic was inducted into the Staten Island Soccer League's Hall of Fame in 2012. He started playing soccer as a child in Croatia, and he brought his love of the sport with him to Staten Island when he immigrated at age 16. Nick started his coaching career while still a student at Wagner. He has taught for 30 years at New Dorp High School on Staten Island and has coached the girls' soccer team since 1982, the inaugural season of girls' soccer in the Public School Athletic League. He has also coached the men's team at the College of Staten Island, coordinated numerous soccer camps, and officiated at two Northeast Conference championships, among many other services to the sport of soccer. He was named Official of the Year in 2011 by the New York City Soccer Officials' Association. **Edward Nessel** was named by United States Swimming and the U.S. Olympic Committee to the

2012 elite list of the most influential swim coaches. This honor resulted from his work with American record holder and Olympic medalist Cullen Jones, whom Ed has been coaching since the age of 13. **Steven Russo** visited the Wagner planetarium in fall 2012 to see the new Spitz SCI Dome HD system. When he was a student, he operated the planetarium from 1973 to 1978. He has been teaching astronomy in planetariums for 39 years, now serving as director of the East Kentucky Science Center and Planetarium in Prestonsburg, Ky. "It was great going back to Wagner and seeing the campus," he wrote. "Hadn't been there since 1984!"

1979

Lorraine Bianco joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary to volunteer her time to the community and to the Coast Guard. She is an athletic trainer who lives in North Cape May, N.J. **Angelo Brisimitzakis**, former CEO of Compass Minerals, visited the Wagner campus in April to meet with science and business students and present a seminar.

1980 & '81

Daniel '80 and Joanne Hein '81 Couture celebrated the

marriage of their oldest daughter, Lyndsay, to Matthew Pess on April 13.

1983

Gail Miller-Shapiro sent in this tribute to the late **Madelyn Gritz DeStefano**, who died on March 9, 2012. “Madelyn was born on December 6, 1961. She lived in New York all of her life and was excited to attend Wagner College in the fall of 1979. Studying in the education department, Madelyn worked hard to earn her degree. As a freshman, Madelyn joined the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. There she became our sister in this national organization and worked on a variety of charitable projects. She made lasting friendships with **Faith Miller Duval** '82, **Jo Ann Moore**, **Gail Miller-Shapiro**, **Belinda Bardes Kielczewski** '84, **Nancy Bracco Coraggio** '86, and **Rosemary Gordon Meagher**. Madelyn worked as a classroom teacher for many years at the Child Study Center in Staten Island. There she met the love of her life, her husband Charles DeStefano. Madelyn continued to look for opportunities where she could make a difference in children's lives, so she moved on from the Child Study Center and became director of early intervention at Our Place in Staten Island. Madelyn was the director of Our Place for many years. She touched the lives of so many children, parents, and staff with her

enthusiasm, knowledge, and nurturing ways. Not only was Madelyn a wonderful teacher and director, she was also a devoted wife, sister to Alice Cassidy, beloved auntie to her nephew Ryan, and dear friend to many. We love her and will miss her always.”

1986

Ed Nitkewicz was recognized for his staunch advocacy for children with special needs. This honor was sponsored by the *Huntington Patch* and Grape-Nuts to highlight those who inspire people around them to climb their own mountains, in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Sir Edmund Hillary's ascent of Mount Everest. An attorney and South Huntington School Board trustee, Ed coaches TOPSoccer and Challenger baseball teams, chairs the Special Needs Faith Formation class at St. Elizabeth's, and is a corporate fundraiser for Autism Speaks.

1988

Richard Negrin, deputy mayor and managing director of the City of Philadelphia, was honored by the Friends of the Free Library at their BiblioBash celebration in March, for his work in branch libraries, community building, youth leadership, literacy, and digital access.

1989

Tracy M. Stratton and his wife, Macie, welcomed a new addition to the family with the birth of their daughter, Violet Lucia, on June 26, 2011.

1992

Paul Pecorino received a strong review in the *New York Post* in January for his performance in the tongue-in-cheek horror musical *The House of Von Macramé* at the Bushwick Starr in Brooklyn. “When this maniacal live-wire proclaims his love for shiny fabrics by crowing, ‘Hail Satin!’ you're ready to sign up for his cult,” wrote *Post* reviewer Elisabeth Vincentelli.

1995

Stacy Cannon married Ken Cronck in Edinburgh, Scotland, on August 9, 2012. **Nancy Salgado-Cowan**

has joined Ivy Pediatrics (ivypediatrics.com), a well-established practice with locations in Manalapan, East Brunswick, and South Amboy, N.J. Nancy has 19 years' experience working with kids. Besides her nursing degree from Wagner, she received an advanced practice degree as a pediatric nurse practitioner from Hunter Bellevue. She is certified in pediatric and advanced trauma life support, and her special interests include asthma, allergies, emergency medicine, and family-centered care. Nancy says she is ecstatic to be caring for children in the urgent/office setting.

1996

Frances-Ann Sciotto Blich is very pleased to announce that she completed the Associate of Science in Nursing degree at the College of Central Florida.



Stacy Cannon '95 and Ken Cronck were married at Dalhousie Castle.

At the time of her writing, she planned to take the boards and become an RN in a couple of months. She previously completed a master's in mental health counseling at the University of Florida. "I am privileged to be able to offer my patients holistic care, as both a counselor and a nurse," she wrote. **Anthony Correnti** completed a master's in humanities from California State University, Dominguez Hills.

1997



Scott Lewers '97 with Emmy

Scott Lewers left Oxygen Media/NBCU to become senior vice president of programming at the Discovery Channel last summer. In April, he was part of the team honored with the 2013 Sports Emmy for Outstanding New Approaches Sports Event Coverage for the Red Bull Stratos Space Jump — the record-setting leap from space by Felix Baumgartner in October 2012 — for which Scott was an associate

producer. The Discovery Channel's live broadcast of the space jump produced the highest rating for a non-prime-time program in the network's history, with 7.6 million viewers.

1999

Barbara Bellesi returned to Wagner to become an assistant director, focused on career services and employer relations, in the Center for Academic and Career Engagement. Over the past decade, she has enjoyed a dual career path as an educator and a writer. She taught high school English and theater and served as an adjunct English instructor at Wagner, and wrote articles and blog posts for a variety of publications. **Jeff Skinner** and his wife, Leigh, welcomed son Ryan Thomas Skinner on October 28, 2012. Jeff is thankful everyone is healthy.

2001

Bret Shuford starred as Corny Collins in *HAIRSPRAY: In Concert!* with the Indianapolis and Baltimore symphony orchestras in January. The concerts marked the 25th anniversary of the John Waters cult comedy film and brought together an all-star cast, including Waters as narrator. Bret is also in the upcoming Martin Scorsese film, *The Wolf of Wall Street*.

2002

Jim Fagen graduated from Seton Hall Law School and worked as a prosecutor for a year. He decided that it was not for him and went into teaching. He quickly got a job at his old high school, Manasquan High School in New Jersey. He runs the History Club, Mock Trials, and Model UN Teams, while teaching US I and II and US II Honors. The History Club was recognized by the National History Club as one of the top 10 in the country. He has stayed in touch with Wagner, and spoke to pre-law students at Wagner in the spring. Some of his former students are attending Wagner. He received a James Madison Fellowship this year, which he will use to pursue master's degrees in history and political science. He has two sons, age 4 and 3. **Joel Richardson '02 M'08** was featured in the *New York Times* for his work with Lifestyles for the Disabled, a Staten Island occupational program for developmentally delayed adults. The story, "Autistic, and on the Airwaves" (April 13, 2013) and a related video, tells how Joel and a co-worker, Burak Uzun, created a talk show that started as a podcast and has evolved into a show on the College of Staten Island



Michele Sampson Nelson '03 and her matron of honor, Gina Noce Bauer '02

radio station, WSIA-88.9, featuring the specialized talents of Lifestyles community members such as Anthony "Mystery Man" DiFato, Chris "Totally '80s" Bungay, and many others. Joel, who is also a stand-up comedian known as Soul Joel, is the radio show's host. "When you get them on their favorite topics, they're great to listen to," he told the *Times*. "I have friends, professional comedians, who tell me they can't believe how entertaining these guys are to listen to." You can listen to Lifestyles Radio at lfdsi.org.

2003

In honor of the 10th anniversary of the fabulous 2002–03 basketball team, Wagner's only one to make it to the NCAA tournament, **Dedrick Dye** gave us an update about many of his teammates.

Dedrick himself is an admissions counselor at Wagner, and he completed his master's in elementary education this year. Three are playing professional basketball abroad: **Jermaine Hall** in Israel, **Doug Viegas** '05 in Brazil, and **Nigel Wyatte** '05 in France. **Jason Allen** '04 is a teacher and coach in Long Island, **DeEarnest McLemore** '06 coaches at Fayetteville State University in North Carolina, and **Corey McCrae** '06 coaches at DeMatha Catholic High School in Maryland. **Matt Vitale** '06 works for the NYPD and lives in Brooklyn. In other class news, **Michele Sampson** married Donny Nelson on October 14, 2012, at St. John's Episcopal Church in New Rochelle, N.Y. Her matron of honor was **Gina Noce Bauer** '02. Also, Michele earned her M.S. in educational leadership from Fordham University.

2004

Crystal Schloemer Dujowich received a full scholarship to complete her Ph.D. in leadership studies at the University of San Diego. She started in 2009 and plans to complete the program this year. As part of the scholarship, she teaches leadership and social change courses for undergraduates at the University of San Diego, a designated Ashoka Changemaker Campus. Her courses integrate experiential learning and

service learning into the curriculum. A specialist in global citizenship, she has taught courses in Ghana, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Spain, and Sri Lanka.

2006

Alexandra Sulton Adinolfi and her husband, Paul, announce the birth of Athan Lau Adinolfi on May 23. They live in Farmingville, N.Y. *See Crib Notes, page 33, for a photo.* **Ashley L. Alexander** joined Wagner's Office of Institutional Advancement in January as executive director of development operations and chief operating officer. She previously worked as senior director of strategic planning and operations for the Global Resources Division of the Wildlife Conservation Society. **Laura Agostino** gave a presentation to Wagner students, "Spanish in the Business World: Double Major, Double Opportunity," last October. Since graduating with a double major in business administration and Spanish, she has worked for HSBC, FINRA, and a Canadian bank. **Michael Armato**, a doctoral candidate in the Rockefeller College Department of Political Science at the University at Albany-SUNY, has been studying Congressman and Republican vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan as one of the subjects of his dissertation, "Practicing Representation:

The Influence of Political Competition on the Home Styles of U.S. Representatives." His research received attention during the 2012 presidential campaign. **Elisabeth L. Cardiello** '06 M'07 has

started a business based on an invention of her late father's. Caffe Unimatic (caffeuimatic.com) markets her father's patented drip percolator coffee pot. A percentage of proceeds go to the Sir Peter L. Cardiello Award for Entrepreneurship for Wagner students.

Jessica Friswell completed her M.Sc. in anthropology, environment, and development at University College London in 2011. She is serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA member with Ashoka's Youth Venture at the United Way of Tri-County in Massachusetts. **Kara Plant McEachern** and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their daughter Molly Virginia on March 4. *See Crib Notes, page 33, for a photo.*

2007

Scott Chamberlin M'07 and **Jackie Poston** M'08 were married in March. **Denielle Diodato** married Joseph Albanese on May 14, 2011. She is a teacher at PS 4 in Staten Island. **Kimberly Farrell**, DMD, returned to Wagner in March to meet with students at the Pre-Health Society's annual reception. **Nicole Filippazzo Giammarinaro** and her

husband, Matthew, had their first child, Natalie Harper Giammarinaro, on April 15. *See Crib Notes, page 33, for a photo.*

2008

Nadwa Ibrahim, MD, returned to Wagner in March to meet with students at the Pre-Health Society's annual reception.

Christina Lamb Perez completed her Ph.D. in toxicology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, this year. She married Dr. Alex Perez of Duke University. Christina is looking for teaching positions in North Carolina. **Jackie Poston** M'08 and **Scott Chamberlin** M'07 were married in March.

2009

Denise Balacich, a fourth-year medical student, and **Michelle D'Amura**, a fourth-year optometry student, both at Salus University, returned to Wagner in March to meet with students at the Pre-Health Society's annual reception. **Christina Herrera** and **Thomas McCafferty** '09 M'11 were married on June 9, 2012, at St. Clare's Church in Staten Island. The couple started dating during their freshman year at Wagner. "We loved taking classes together and enjoyed everything Wagner and its campus had to offer," said Thomas. Christina chose her sisters, **Deana Walker** '99 and **Alyssa Herrera** '10, as



Christina Herrera '09 and Thomas '09 M'11 McCafferty

her matron and maid of honor; Thomas's best man was his brother, **Casey McCafferty '11**. Christina, a psychology and education major and summa cum laude graduate, won the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation's

20 Under 40 Award. She has earned a Master of Arts in school counseling from NYU. Thomas received an award for the highest GPA in international business during his MBA studies. He is a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch in Red Bank,

N.J. Christina and Thomas live in Long Branch, N.J.

2011

Aimee Marin completed a second Bachelor of Science at Wagner, in nursing, in 2012; her first degree was in biopsychology. **Rosie Valenti**, a first-year medical student at the NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine, returned to Wagner in March to meet with students at the Pre-Health Society's annual reception.

2012

Amanda Arcieri plans to pursue a Ph.D. in social psychological research at the University of Sydney in Australia under the supervision of Dr. Fiona

White, starting next March. Her research will focus on understanding the development of prejudice and discrimination and effective ways to reduce it. Amanda notes that Wagner's Dr. Amy Eshleman inspired her interest in the field and guided her throughout her graduate school application process. **Jennifer Ida** received a three-year National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship. She will enroll this fall in the anthropology graduate program at the University of Colorado Boulder. **Lisa Nicole Schneider**, a first-year dental student at UMDNJ, returned to Wagner in March to meet with students at the Pre-Health Society's annual reception.



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In Memoriam

Celebrating lives that enriched the Wagner family

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Mrs. Marion B. Rappold Dolwick '44
Dr. George P. Steponkus '44
Mrs. Muriel Evers Keigher '48
Mrs. Shirley Sandberg Shannon '48
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Mr. Kenneth E. Laucella '49
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Mr. Carl A. Westerdahl '59

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Mrs. Domenica "Mickey" Sacca Giovinazzo
Dr. Glenn C. Leach

Diane Borst Manning '59 M'62 and Carl A. Westerdahl '59

Classmates and contributors to a better Wagner

With sadness, we note the passing of Diane Borst Manning '59 M'62 on February 2, 2013, and of Carl A. Westerdahl '59 on April 3, 2013. Both were leaders in their class and great supporters of Wagner College, especially of the Horrmann Library.

Carl Westerdahl mobilized the class of 1959 as its 50th reunion approached. It became a vibrant group known as Wagner '59 and Friends. Diane Borst Manning became active in that group, and she also volunteered to chair the Friends of the Library Committee in 2003. One of Diane's first tasks as chair was to organize a memorial in the library for Harry Steeve '59 and Rosemarie Bade Lasinski '60.

The Horrmann Library did not exist yet when Diane and

Carl were students at Wagner; but in their senior year, the Horrmann family made the gift that enabled the College to build this much-needed facility. Therefore, Carl said, the class determined to help make the Horrmann Library into "a tool for education for today's students." The result was the 2011 dedication of the Class of 1959 Learning Commons, developed with funds raised by the class of 1959 under the leadership of Diane and her husband, Norman Berg; Carl and his wife, Susan Clarke; and others in the class. These computer-equipped group study rooms are wildly popular and a daily reminder of their commitment to Wagner and the Horrmann Library.

For more information about the Friends of the Library or to donate in memory of Diane or Carl, go to <http://wagner.libguides.com/friends>.

— Dorothy Davison, Dean of the Horrmann Library



Professor Emeritus John “Bunny” Barbes ’39

Coach, alumni director, and all-around Wagner cheerleader

Professor Emeritus John “Bunny” Barbes ’39 died at home in Sunrise, Florida, on April 1, 2013 — his 96th birthday.

Known to all by his childhood nickname, Bunny was a beloved professor, coach, and administrator at Wagner College and a tireless supporter of the National Alumni Association. He attended Wagner for two years and graduated from Arnold College with a B.S. in physical education. He also earned a master’s in education from Columbia University. His long career with Wagner athletics began in 1946 and included coaching football, track, and squash. He also taught physical education and served as Wagner’s alumni director for 14 years.

Barbes was inducted into the Wagner Athletics Hall of Fame in 1993. The alumni association’s distinguished service award was named the John “Bunny” Barbes ’39 and Lila T. Barbes ’40 Alumni Laureate to honor this couple who meant so much to the College as educators, volunteers, fundraisers, and all-around cheerleaders. Lila Barbes died in 2009.

Survivors include son Allan D. Barbes ’71, daughter Linda A. Barbes Stein ’69, two grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.



Professor Emerita Jean Normandy ’61 M’63

Seamstress, actor, and college instructor

Jean Normandy, an instructor in the Wagner English department from 1963 to 1982, died on April 6, 2013, at the age of 96, in Bridgewater, Virginia.

Born in Italy, raised in Staten Island, Normandy dropped out of school during the Great Depression to work in the garment industry. During World War II, she performed in theater groups on Broadway as well as abroad for the U.S. Army. While working in sales at a high-end department store after the war, she returned to the classroom, earning her high school degree in night school and continuing at Wagner College. She received her bachelor’s in English in 1961 and her master’s in 1963. She especially loved Renaissance literature as well as the works of Shakespeare and Milton, and retired as a professor emerita in 1982.



Professor of Music Ronald Cross

Noted scholar, educator, and performer

Ronald Cross, the Kurt and Auguste Riemann Professor of Music at Wagner College, died at home on February 21, 2013, just a few days after his 84th birthday.

A professor at Wagner from 1968 until the day of his death, Dr. Cross influenced generations of music students. “He had the wonderful ability to make the complexities of music interesting to the uninitiated, and interspersed theory and analysis with amusing anecdotes about composers, as well as his personal experiences as a performer,” said Jeff Dailey ’80, president of the New York City chapter of the American Musicological Society.

Cross was a scholar of many types of music, ranging from the Renaissance to Bach to Romantic opera to American music to non-Western music. He earned his bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees from New York University. He was a Fulbright Scholar and authored the definitive catalogue of the works of Flemish composer Mattheus Pipelare.

He was also, in Dailey’s words, “an amazing performer,” especially on the organ and harpsichord, and on the viola da gamba and other early instruments as well. During the 1980s, he directed the Collegium Musicum Wagneriensis and its well-known Halloween concerts, *Music from the Court of Vlad the Impaler* (Prince Dracula).

He regularly took his students, and also Wagner faculty from other departments, to concerts all over New York City. Biology Professor Ammini Moorthy remembered him as “a soft-spoken, perfect gentleman with a boyish grin who was a scholar, a teacher, and a great human being.”



How I Became the Water Man

Late in Life, a New Journey By George Lewis '56

In 2006, I went to Guatemala with Rotary International on my first humanitarian project. The purpose of that trip was to install stoves in the homes of the Mayan Indians. While there, I was able to talk with the top Guatemalan Rotarian. I told him I was about to become president of my Rotary Club in Florence, Oregon, and I wanted to know how I could help the poor in his country.

Without hesitating, he told me to supply clean drinking water, because people were getting sick and children were dying.

I was apprehensive. My club had never applied for a Rotary matching grant, I didn't know how to fill out the paperwork, and my club didn't have any money in our budget. Plus, I was 71 years old — quite old to be starting on this new journey. But I remembered seeing the look on the sick children's faces.

In order to apply for a Rotary matching grant, I needed to define a project, find a host Rotary Club in Guatemala to be my partner, and raise seed money for the grant. I was introduced to a Rotarian from the largest Rotary Club in Guatemala, who also was the wholesaler of a \$50 in-house water filter. That

covered the project and the host club. Now, I needed to get the money. I decided to go for a \$25,000 matching grant, which meant I had to raise \$7,000. My district would match my club donation, and the Rotary Foundation would match my club at 50 percent and the district at 100 percent. I held a fundraiser, which netted \$3,000. I then contacted the 70 other club presidents in my district and asked for their support. This was grueling, but I finally was able to get enough money to proceed. The filters were delivered, and we were able to help 4,500 people.

After that very rewarding experience, I decided to put together a \$50,000 grant. My club completed a few of those. I then solicited other clubs in my district to be the primary partner for their own grants. I went back to Guatemala to ask Rotary Clubs to be the host partners, and I started to contact Rotary Clubs from other parts of the U.S. and

Canada. We were doing great, but then Rotary started a new program which meant I couldn't serve Guatemala for three years. I was devastated.

Just then, I received an email from someone I didn't know asking me to be their friend. I thought it was spam. Then I received a second and third request from people around the country. I looked into it and found out it was Facebook. I am now back in business.

I started to get Rotary friends from around the world. I asked them if they wanted to do a water grant, and many were very excited to have this opportunity. I had them fill out a form that explained their need and their project. I then proactively found them a Rotary Club partner outside of their country, because the Rotary Foundation requires

two partners to fund a grant. I asked Rotarians from around the world to be my Facebook friends, to the point that I am at the maximum number of 5,000 allowed.

It was very easy to find projects, but not so easy to find partners. On Facebook, I posted projects and told stories

with lots of photos. It then clicked. Last year I helped put together or participated in 63 grants, and this year I expect to do more. Some of the earlier clubs are on their second or third grants.

In order to find Rotary Club partners, I have given hundreds of Rotary Club programs, talked at district conferences in all parts of the country, and spoken at president-elect training conferences that had as many as 500 attendees. My talks are about motivating Rotarians to take action on their dreams, to get rid of negative thoughts, so they can also live this life-changing experience.

Of the hundreds of Rotarians who have expressed an interest in water, very few actually follow through and do a grant. When I ask them why they haven't done a grant, the biggest excuse is that their club doesn't have any money. In the past, I just advised them to hold a fundraiser. Most did

“My theory is that if you are doing a good thing and you ask for support in a nice way, your friends can't resist.”

not. I determined that I had to solve this problem, so they could get rid of this obstacle. I founded Global Run 4 Water (www.globalrun4water.org) to motivate clubs to take action and raise the necessary funds in order to complete a grant. Our website shows many ways to organize an event, whether it's a 5K, a 10K, a marathon, or a stroll around the park. I gathered a passionate group of Rotarians from around the world to be on my board. Our goal was to raise a million dollars as soon as possible. One event in India had 9,000 children participating. Each was given a bright yellow hat with our Global Run logo on it.

I also recently partnered with Pure Charity (www.purecharity.com), a website that helps charities raise money for humanitarian projects. It allows me to post projects that I am working on. The first one was for a water project in Peru. My campaign was to run a local 5K to raise money. I'm 78 years old, and this would be my very first race. I sent an email to everyone on my contact list — about 1,800 people. The donations came pouring in. My theory is that if you are doing a good thing and you ask for support in a nice way, your friends can't resist, mostly because they want to help you.

When I am finished, most of the world will know about this terrible water problem, and we will have shown them an easy way to support us. This is my passion in life. I am not compensated. I spend hours every day trying to spread the word, find projects and then find partners. When I started, I had a goal to supply clean drinking water to one million less fortunate people. I am now very close to accomplishing this goal. So, what's next? I now have a huge support group, and many are bringing in new supporters every day. This group will help me get to two million people served and in a lot shorter period than the first million.

George Lewis '56, a retired stockbroker and former professional baseball player, is a member of the Wagner Athletic Hall of Fame and was named a Wagner College Alumni Fellow in 2009. He now lives in Florida. Learn more about George Lewis's work by visiting Water Team International at www.waterteaminternational.org. Or, send him a friend request on Facebook!



WAGNER COLLEGE



Moment of Pride

Brittany McCullough of Fort Hood, Texas, was one of the 566 graduates of 2013, all congratulated personally by President Guarasci. McCullough graduated cum laude from the Honors Program with a double major in philosophy and Spanish and a minor in sociology.