

Dr. Heidi Krebs, MD. '93

Family spirit leads to
family medicine

Sr. Joanne Gross '73

Ursuline attorney helps shape
county government

Jamie Myers '76

Petco CEO brings values
to corporate life

VASJ

Magazine

Villa Angela-St. Joseph

High School

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Champions
on and off
the court

SUMMER 2013

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The legacy continues



Let the celebration continue. Not *begin*, mind you, because that would suggest we are starting all over again. The fact is that Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School has been on a roll since Villa Angela Academy was established in 1878.

The celebration of our school's success continued in 1950 when St. Joseph High School was founded. And it continued when the girls' and boys' schools merged in 1990.

As we head into our 24th year as VASJ, we have much to celebrate from the past year alone. Once again, 100 percent of our graduating seniors are either already attending or are soon heading to college. Enrollment numbers continue their rapid rise. And we won another state basketball championship.

How's that for continued success?

We call our annual scholarship drive "Continuing the Dream" because all of us here in the Viking Village are focused on ensuring that the blessings of a VASJ education will continue for generations to come.

At the Baccalaureate ceremonies for the Class of 2013, I was struck by thoughts of the thousands of assemblies, games and other functions that have taken place in the very same gym. (As I often remind myself, the building and I came to be in the same year. Truth be told, the building shows a lot less wear and tear than I do.)

I told the graduates that as they joined the ranks of our alumni, they now shared a special bond not only with their classmates but all of us who are graduates of Villa Angela Academy, St. Joseph High School and VASJ. From this point forward, we are members of one family. And the Viking Village will always be our home.

Scanning the gym, I saw myself as a student at dances, assemblies, basketball games and school plays. I saw memorable teachers who kept order even while they enjoyed the functions as much as we did. I thought of rallies and games where legendary coaches shouted encouragement and made our spirits soar. I thought of the wonderful nuns who guided their students at the "old" VA, the "new" VA and here at VASJ.

How fortunate we are that the connection of past and present continues. Nancy (Slominski) Naujoks '68, our longtime Athletic Director (not to mention my wife's classmate at VA), now takes on new responsibilities as Dean of Students. And replacing her as AD is yet another alum, Nate Zavorek '94.

No wonder that "legacy" is a word so often heard around our school.

Not a week goes by that we do not have alumni visitors who pop in to the school simply to stroll down Memory Lane. At some point in the first-floor hallway, they stop to gaze up at their class portrait.

Time and time again, our alums remark that the most important things they think and believe came from their families, their church and this school.

Now another class joins this special group. We wish them well and we look forward to their future visits back home in the Viking Village.

Richard J. Osborne '69

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A Year of Champions



Now that the 2012-13 school year has come to a close, we pause for a moment to look back at what a great year it was. It was, in fact, a “Year of Champions.”

Of course one of the most memorable moments was the Viking boys basketball team capturing a fifth basketball state title for the Village. There were, however, many other memorable championship moments throughout the year.

While these moments may not have been accompanied by trophies and fanfare, they are great examples of the wonderful things that happen regularly around the Viking Village. Here’s a sample of some of those moments:

- For the second year in a row, 100% of our graduating seniors are headed to college.
- VASJ’s *Ventures* literary magazine received a rating of “Excellent” by the National Council of Teachers of English.
- The student body raised nearly \$5,000 during the annual Lenten Mission Collection for donations to several worthy charities, most with some affiliation to our school and our alums.
- During the first and third quarters, 41% of the students made honor roll, earning either first honors (GPA of 3.8 or higher) or second honors (GPA of 3.3-3.79). During the second quarter, the number reached 49%.

Academics are not the only place our students excel. Vikings stood out in service and peace and justice issues this past year as well. Some of the more memorable ones include:

The sophomores’ Make a Difference Day, where groups of sophomores teamed up and visited local

charities to perform acts of service such as cleaning, serving meals and entertaining residents. Jill Latkovich, VASJ’s Campus Minister, noted afterwards, “I was really moved by how good the students felt after their day of service. This day united them as a class.”

Twenty-one VASJ students spent a day volunteering at the Regional Special Olympics tournament sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, and made a big impact. Gary Minadeo ’74, a VASJ math teacher who chaperoned the day, said VASJ students “worked hard to be sure all went well for the over 400 athletes. Their reward was service hours, and the joy of knowing they put smiles on the faces of plenty of athletes and Knights that day.”

More recently, a group of our students attended a formal dance at the Monarch School, a school for students with autism. The Vikings served as mentors and models of appropriate behavior. The adult chaperones were impressed, saying VASJ students did a wonderful job, made all the kids feel accepted and special, showed genuine compassion and made it a day their kids will never forget.

Too often in our society, true champions are overlooked. The current students of VASJ act as champions every day, and we could not be more proud.

I wish all of you a safe and happy summer and I look forward to another great year in the Viking Village beginning in August.

Christ’s Peace,

David M. Csank

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We’d love to hear your thoughts on *VASJ Magazine*. Send your questions, comments or concerns to Emily Robinson, Director of Communications, at erobinson@vasj.com or 216-481-8414 ext. 235.

What are you up to?

We need your help to stay current. Help us update our records by providing us with your current contact information. Share your news with your classmates about your career, activities and whereabouts. Please write class notes in third person and keep between 50-75 words. Mail your entries to the address listed below or visit www.vasj.com/alumni to find the forms for submitting class notes and updating contact information.

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Enrollment continues to expand



As we bring the curtain down on another successful year in recruiting and enrollment at VASJ, I am happy to report that it has been 12 months of satisfying success on several levels.

First, we welcomed the 111 students who comprise the class of 2016. They quickly made the Viking Village their own and have had a terrific year. We will be naming a number of them as student ambassadors very soon.

The class of 2017 is shaping up to be just as great with over 120 exceptional students admitted to date. They will be accompanied by over 30 transfer students in grades 10 through 12, most of whom are joining us from St. Peter Chanel, but also come to us from Lake Catholic, St. Edward, St. Martin de Porres, Chardon, Beaumont and Copley.

Our international student population is also

getting a boost for the 2013-14 school year. Although we said goodbye to our graduating senior from South Korea, Sunghee Han, we will welcome several Chinese students who began their American high school experience at St. Peter Chanel and will finish at VASJ.

Another pleasant development is the expansion of our ongoing relationship with the Howley Family Foundation. The Howley Foundation has been an enthusiastic supporter of VASJ for some time.

Over the last few years, the Howley Foundation has narrowed its philanthropic scope to focus on seven

Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Cleveland and we are honored to be among them.

Every spring, the Howley Foundation selects a number of incoming freshmen to become "Howley Scholars." These students must meet criteria for academics, test scores and financial need and are awarded a renewable scholarship to help with their tuition. This year, the Howley Foundation asked VASJ to identify a pool of candidates from which 10 incoming freshmen will be selected to receive the scholarship – the largest group of Howley Scholars in a single class to date.

The recipients will be required to maintain a minimum GPA and must provide the Howley Foundation with updates on their academic and extracurricular progress. It is an added blessing for VASJ and these students that during the school year, Mr. & Mrs. Howley are often guests at our special events, such as Founders Day, and visit for lunch and conversation with their scholars.

Lastly, I would like to recognize our VASJ parents for what they have done to grow our parent volunteer program. It is a blessing to see this program advance with a phenomenal group of parents who took the time to volunteer during the school day, at open houses, registrations and special events this year.

It is extremely valuable for parents of prospective students to have the opportunity to speak with our current parents. Thank you for your dedication, your presence and your enthusiasm about our school. You are making a difference.

There is much to be proud of this year at VASJ and even more to be excited about with our future!

Go Vikings!

Terri M. Richards

Terri M. Richards



Billy Vidmar earned third place in the state Power of the Pen tournament held at the College of Wooster. The contest began with more than 7,500 entries. Billy, a graduate from St. John of the Cross, represents one of many exceptional students who will be coming to VASJ in the fall as the Class of 2017.



Many fundraising accomplishments



There were many successes to celebrate in the 2012-13 school year at VASJ. In addition to having received funds for renovating our chemistry lab, we also received \$41,500 in grant funds from the Diocese of Cleveland. These grants were awarded through the Rooted In Faith – Forward in Hope campaign. The funds will be used for cosmetic upgrades to restroom facilities and upgrading the current technology infrastructure to increase our wireless capabilities.

Grants are not the only areas in advancement that have increased: Annual giving has grown by 73% since 2010 and fundraising income has more than doubled as a result of the success of the third annual Vikings Classic Mixer which was held in April.

The 2013 Classic Mixer broke all records as a fundraiser, netting over \$200,000. Presenting sponsor for the event was Joseph Scaminace '71, who donated \$25,000. The event was chaired by Mike Romeo '88, who picked up the baton from last year's chairman,

Peter Apicella '70.

Current VASJ students were a significant presence at the event as greeters and helpers. Emcees were sophomore Danielle Paus and freshman John Henry Posey.

Board of Advisors Chairman Don Dailey '70 literally set the stage for

"Continuing the Dream" by announcing that a group of eight "Dream Makers" had collectively agreed to donate \$65,000 if other contributors would raise \$35,000, thus creating a \$100,000 total.

The Dream Makers were assembled after Tim Misny '73 said he would match \$10,000 if other donors would "make him pay." Besides Scaminace and Misny, the Dream Makers included John Hovevar '69, Jamie Myers '72, Clark Kellogg '79, Jim Zinkan, Umberto Fedeli '78 and Mike Golic '81.

Bob Mullin '88 got the "bidding" going by joining the Dream Makers on the spot with a pledge of \$10,000. Other contributors enthusiastically joined

in, either in person or with "designated hitters" announcing their pledges from the floor. Mike Romeo spoke for his 1988 classmate (not to mention Heisman Trophy winner and Super Bowl MVP), Desmond Howard.

The VASJ Board of Advisors pledged \$9,000. Greg Lieb '70, a member of last year's Classic Mixer committee and an event sponsor this year, pledged an additional \$5,000.

In addition to Scaminace and Lieb, sponsors of the event included Cinecraft Productions, led by Neil McCormick '70, who also was a Continuing the Dream contributor, along with *Cleveland Magazine*, Agents Choice, Don and Mary Jo Dailey, Euclid Hospital, Morgan Stanley, PCS, the St. Joseph Class of '88, Gerard Stadler '69 and board member Sue Eline-White.

Needless to say, we are deeply grateful to everyone who supported us – our sponsors, program advertisers, auction and raffle donors, "Dream Makers" and other donors and volunteers.

None of these fundraising accomplishments would have been possible without the continued support of our alumni and alumnae. Whether it was assisting at an athletic event, a fundraiser, or even serving as a member of a committee – all have contributed to the success of the past school year.

All alumni and community engagement with VASJ plays an important role in the success of our school and we are deeply appreciative.

Mary A. Paxton



Dream Maker Tim Misny '73 shakes the hand of student emcee (and aspiring attorney) John Henry Posey '16.



Nathan Zavorek '94

announced as new AD

During his senior year at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School, Nathan Zavorek '94 was voted "Viking of the Year" by his classmates for his passion and dedication to his school.

Nearly two decades later, Zavorek hasn't lost any of his enthusiasm for his alma mater. He will bring that energy and passion to his new role as VASJ's Athletic Director, effective with the 2013-14 school year.

Principal David Csank made the announcement in May that Zavorek would replace longtime Athletic Director Nancy (Slominski) Naujoks '68 who has transitioned into the role of the school's Dean of Students, allowing her to have more interaction with the students.

"We are very excited to begin a new chapter at VASJ," said Csank. "As Dean of Students, Nancy will have the opportunity to work even more directly with our students and have a positive influence on their lives. We look forward to Nate's ideas and vision as he builds on Nancy's excellent work."

In her new role, Naujoks will be responsible for handling student affairs including day-to-day duties and discipline issues. She also has been appointed chairperson of the Ohio Catholic School Accrediting Association (OCSAA) Futuring Committee, which will help guide and lead VASJ faculty, staff and students over the next few years.

"I think the Ursuline and Marianist charisms come into play in helping to develop students' character. I feel that is what we are called to do," Naujoks says. "I hope to play a part in helping the students at VASJ become students of character."

Zavorek's focus will also be on the students in his new role as the school's AD. "The idea of having a positive influence on the students is paramount," he says. "Sports can shape a person's future in more ways than just the athletic scope."

Zavorek has supported the school in many capacities since his graduation, including his role providing operational support to the 2013 Division IV State Championship boys basketball team – an opportunity that has allowed him to witness the powerful impact sports can have on student-athletes.

"I'm excited to help our student-athletes grow not only physically on the courts and fields, but also as worldly individuals, understanding that the teamwork and pride they have learned from their school will help them succeed far beyond the classroom," says Zavorek. "To me the student will always come first."

A former project manager and economic development coordinator for the City of Eastlake, he has been deeply involved in CYO sports and coaches a summer basketball league for high school boys.

Zavorek brings more than just passion and enthusiasm to his new position. With two bachelor's degrees – in business administration and economics – from the University of Pittsburgh and a master's degree in business administration from Cleveland State University, he brings with him a strong understanding of business and management.

One of his top priorities in his new role is consistency:

In the classroom, making sure all student-athletes are working hard to excel academically; with facilities, making sure they are clean and tidy and represent the school well during athletic events; nice uniforms on all teams; and proper etiquette from the athletes and fans.

"The athletic teams are a very visible extension of our school and it is my goal for the perception to the general public to be when the Red and Blue come marching through, people will say, 'What a class act those Vikings are, but we fear playing them,' " says Zavorek. "We will kill them with kindness and decorum but destroy them on the playing field."



VASJ president represents diocese in China

President Richard Osborne '69 traveled to Zhōngshān, China, in April to explore potential educational opportunities for Chinese students at VASJ.



Drama Club performs Disney's Aladdin *VASJ's drama club gave four wonderful performances of Disney's Aladdin Jr. in front of nearly 500 people, including a dress rehearsal for elementary schools Ss. Robert and William and St. Jerome.*



Students raise
nearly \$5,000
during Lenten
Mission Collection

VASJ students raised \$4,600 during the Lenten Mission Collection, allowing \$1,000 donations to be made to each of the following organizations: The City of Children Orphanage (John Shinsky '69) in Matamoros, Mexico; Comunidad of Oscar Arnulfo Romero (COAR) in El Salvador; Our Lady of Nazareth Marianist elementary school in Kenya; St. Agatha-St. Aloysius Pre-School, a Marianist sponsored parish in Cleveland; and Domus Pacis Family Respite in Colorado which ministers to terminally ill patients and their families, and is the ministry of Vincent White-Petteruti '69 and his wife, Mary Louise.



Students honor veterans

VASJ math teacher Gary Minadeo '74, a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, took a group of VASJ students to All Souls Cemetery to honor local veterans by placing American flags on their graves for Memorial Day. This is the third year for this worthy tradition.



Career Fair

Left: Joseph Scaminace '71 returned to VASJ as the featured speaker of the career fair where he shared his experiences as Chief Executive Officer of the OM Group with the students. Scaminace was also the presenting sponsor at this year's Classic Mixer annual gala.

Right: Neil McCormick '70, chairman of Cinecraft Productions, speaks to Nicole Oudaaddaa '13 about her interests in the creative arts. McCormick was one of the 40 alums and community members who gathered in the gym on April 17 for VASJ's career fair.



Ladies Night Out

Members of the Villa Angela Class of 1979 take a break from the fun for a quick picture at the Ladies Night Out event held annually on the first Thursday in May. Marilyn Tucci Belevice '68 and her excellent committee members work hard year after year to make this event a huge success and a lot of fun.

Breaking barriers in football and medicine

By Emily Robinson

Clevelanders remember it all too well. It was January 1987. The Cleveland Browns had just suffered a devastating loss to the Denver Broncos, an infamous defeat that became known as “The Drive.” Heidi Krebs ’93, a middle school student at St. Paul’s in Euclid, was one of the tens of thousands of fans upset over the loss. But she wasn’t going to just sit and stew about it. Krebs looked up the phone number for the Browns’ center at the time, Mike Baab, and gave him a call.

For a shy and not overly confident seventh-grader, this took some courage. But emotions will do that. “I was really upset,” she recalls. “Maybe I needed to be consoled or maybe I wanted to see if he was okay.”

Expecting Baab to be outraged by the loss, she was stunned to hear him speak so calmly and eloquently about what had happened – even commending the Broncos and their quarterback John Elway for a job well done. “I was shocked at what great sportsmanship he showed,” Krebs says.

They talked about football and about Krebs’ love for the game. “I told him my intention to play someday,” she says. “I felt a sense of urgency to play football in high school since I thought it would be my only chance and I was not going to waste it. I wanted the challenge.”

Over the next few years, Krebs kept in touch with Baab who continued to mentor and encourage her in her football quest. At the end of her sophomore year at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School, Coach John Storey ’59 gave her the green light to try out for the team. Her determination paid off when she became the team’s kicker.

Today, she carries her extraordinary spirit of determination to her



life as a doctor in Cincinnati. It is this same determination that got her through medical school during a time when there weren’t a lot of women becoming doctors. Clearly, she has never been one to back away from a challenge. “It definitely pushed me even more,” Krebs says.

Choosing a career in medicine “just felt right,” she says. While she may not have realized it then, there is no denying that the values she learned during her time at VASJ played a large role in her decision to go to medical school.

She was highly influenced by science teachers Ken Prince ’64 and Priscilla Balint, both of whom challenged her academically and showed a personal interest in her education. As a result, she left VASJ knowing she wanted a career in science.

She majored in biology and chemistry at John Carroll University and explored the idea of going into medical research. But she listened to her heart and moved in a different direction.

“I realized that my skills were better at nurturing and healing people,” Krebs says. “I knew I could have a bigger impact with direct patient contact.”

Krebs recalls the emphasis her high school teachers placed on treating everyone fairly and showing compassion and kindness to others, manifestations of the Ursuline and Marianist core values.

Her strong faith and her desire to make a difference and have an impact on the lives of others – values she says she learned at VASJ – all contributed to her decision to become a doctor.

“I feel we were encouraged to pursue careers and hobbies that do service to others,” Krebs says.

Krebs found herself migrating toward primary care. She works at a community health center in Cincinnati, where she sees patients who have limited access to care and often are uninsured. Her patients run the gamut of the medically underserved and include those who are homeless, migrant workers, drug and alcohol addicts, teenage mothers and persons suffering from mental illness.

There are many benefits to working in primary care such as the days never being dull and getting to develop deep relationships with the families with whom she works. “I’ve taken care of four generations in one family,” Krebs says.

Most important, she is able to have an impact. “The best part of my job is making a difference,” Krebs says. “You have to be creative and find ways to help those in need.”

Her patients bring with them communication and educational barriers that make providing them with the care they need extremely challenging. Her patients face social obstacles – some with little to no English speaking ability, some who can’t read or write. Many of her patients don’t have a high school diploma, don’t have jobs and are poverty-stricken.

It is not always easy. There are moments when she questions whether she is making a difference or having an impact on the life of a patient. “People come too late because they were afraid of a bill,” she says. Knowing they couldn’t afford the medical attention they needed, they stayed away.

By the time she sees them, their condition has advanced past the point of treatment and she’s left feeling helpless. “Not being able to help somebody, it’s devastating,” Krebs says. “You can’t be a doctor and not care.”

She faces many such challenges that make it difficult to provide her patients with the best care possible. And it’s more than just medical care that her clinic provides.

“We coordinate all aspects of their care,” Krebs says. “We make connections in the community and help to get our patients centered. If they are ready to make changes in their life, we help them help themselves.”

Whether it is finding a homeless shelter so a patient can have a roof over their head or a parenting class for young, inexperienced mothers, Krebs works hard to ensure her patients are receiving the care they need.



She relies on her strong faith foundation to make her a better doctor. “Faith plays a big role in how I treat my patients as a physician,” Krebs says. “I show them compassion without judgment. These patients don’t have anybody else.”

She sees her role providing care to the medically underserved as a duty more than a choice. “We were taught at VASJ to help someone when they are in need, regardless of how they got there,” Krebs says. “A lot of times it’s easier to point fingers and blame people for their circumstances but I don’t think that’s what we were taught.”



Heidi’s husband Dr. Mark Johnson, Dr. Heidi Krebs, their daughter Rosalind, Heidi’s mom Janice (Berkopec) Krebs ’61 and her sister Theresa (Krebs) Duke ’91.

But it is hard work. “It can be exhausting,” Krebs say. “You have to separate yourself and find things outside of your career to distract you.”

She focuses her life outside of work on her husband Mark (also a doctor in the field of child psychiatry), their new baby girl Rosie (born May 31) and, of course, football.

Krebs was a member of the Cincinnati Sizzle, a women’s professional football team, for six years playing defensive and offensive line. She retired for the 2013 season when she learned she was pregnant. Krebs is now serving as the special teams coach for the Sizzle and is truly enjoying this new capacity with the team.

Her soft-spoken demeanor makes it even harder to imagine her suited up in football gear, ready to hit someone. But like a true Viking, her love for athletics comes from her passion for challenging herself, her desire to push herself to achieve more than she ever thought possible, and her overall drive for success.

Krebs has a picture of her Fusion football helmet on her Facebook profile. Placed over the fusion logo is a Viking horn.

Emily Robinson is the director of communications at Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School.



The Lessons Coaches Teach

By Emily Robinson

VASJ boys basketball coach Babe Kwasniak '94 says it often when talking about the recent accomplishments of his team: It's about more than just basketball. The team's successes – a state championship title led by former state championship coaches, a new VASJ record for most wins in a season, making it to the state tournament in four different divisions – are all amazing accomplishments that deserve to be celebrated. And at an all-school victory rally held in April and a special ring ceremony held in May, the team did just that.

At the ring ceremony, Kwasniak shared one of his favorite memories from the season – a memory that epitomizes the team's unique culture. It happened when one of the young players on the team scored his first varsity basket. Kwasniak could hear a mom in the stands fanatically screaming and cheering. When he looked up, expecting to see the player's mom, he realized it was actually the mother of a different player.

For Kwasniak, watching this mom celebrate the success of another player just as enthusiastically as she would if it were her own son was a perfect example of the Viking difference and the culture he has worked hard to instill in his players.

"This is our family," says Kwasniak. "This is what separates

us from the rest." On a night that was all about celebrating the state victory and receiving the championship rings, Kwasniak was focusing his attention on something even more worthy of celebration. "The thing I'm most proud of is our culture," he said.

It's about more than just being a championship team. It's about being champions both on and off the court and that means creating a culture in which teammates care about one another, every person on the team from the starters to the managers are valued for their contributions, and the success of the team is placed higher than the success of the individual.

"You have to learn how important your teammates are," Kwasniak says. "You don't accomplish anything by yourself. It's a team sport."

Exemplifying this team spirit and camaraderie are the three senior captains, Duane Gibson Jr., Demonte Flannigan and Patrick Mastalski, all of whom are wonderful examples of what it means to "walk and talk like a Viking," as Coach Kwasniak refers to it.

"Coach makes sure that everybody cares about each other," says Mastalski '13, who was named the NCL White Division MVP for baseball and will go on to John Carroll University in the fall to major in finance. "My teammates are some of my closest friends."

Even more, Kwasniak has fostered an environment in which the

Patrick Mastalski '13, Duane Gibson Jr. '13, Coach Babe Kwasniak '94 and Demonte Flannigan '13 pose for a picture after the Baccalaureate service at VASJ.

teammates view one another like family. “When people ask me how many siblings I have, I tell them 18,” says Flannigan '13, who will continue his career playing Division I basketball for Cleveland State University.

Everyone on the team is celebrated as a part of the family. When the team members received their state championship medals, Kwasniak made sure the managers were given just as much recognition (and hardware) as the rest of the team. Being a Viking means embracing their teammates like family.

“Everybody had an extreme impact on the team,” says Flannigan. “Ronny was a really good part of our team. He never does anything wrong and made everybody on the team so close.”

Ronny Faddoul '15 has been a team manager for two years. Known for his happy spirit and kindness to others, Faddoul had such a positive influence on the team that they even adopted the phrase, “What would Ronny do?” as a guide for making good decisions.

It's important to Kwasniak that his players recognize the great amount of pride that comes with not only being a VASJ basketball player, but with being a VASJ Viking. He teaches his players the importance of being gracious and humble, as evidenced by listening to any of their interviews.

“Winning the state championship with my team means more to me than any individual accomplishment,” says Gibson '13, who was named All-Ohio and *The Plain Dealer's* basketball player of the year. Gibson will go on to play Division I basketball for the University of Evansville.

To Coach Kwasniak, being champions on and off the court means taking every opportunity and turning it into a teachable moment. He uses these moments to teach the players about more than just basketball – he teaches them about important life values. “You’re not going to play the game forever,” Kwasniak says. “They have to learn about life and I can teach them that through basketball. That’s the part of it that I love.”

To Gibson, the relationship with his coach extends far beyond the court. “He’s more like a father to me than a coach. He taught me the ways of life and he teaches it through basketball.”

Kwasniak believes in pushing his captains to their fullest potential by letting them lead the team.

“He’s a fantastic leader but he made it known that it was our responsibility to get the team where we wanted to be,” says Mastalski. “He’s a good boss,” adds Flannigan. “He empowers. We lead.”

Perhaps Kwasniak recognized their leadership potential before they believed it themselves. “He thought I had potential to be a leader,” says Gibson. “He just wanted me to bring it out in myself.”

A West Point graduate and former Captain in the U.S. Army, there’s no denying the fact that Kwasniak’s military background has shaped the type of coach he is – a coach who emphasizes hard work, diligence and determination. He wants his players to be class acts.

This year the team brought back an old Viking tradition of wearing team blazers. “It does for our kids what the military uniform did for our service men and women,” Kwasniak says. “When they are wearing them, they feel like they have to walk and talk a certain way and that’s good.”

The players on the team view wearing the blazers as a privilege – something that separates their team from the rest. With this privilege, though, comes a tremendous amount of responsibility.

“When I put on my blazer I know that we’re representing the school, everyone here and all of our coaches,” says Gibson. “Once you look a certain way you start acting a certain way,” Flannigan adds. “It gives a great representation of our school,” says Mastalski. “Everyone notices you for the right reasons.”

Kwasniak stresses to his players the importance of academics, which is

why the team’s study tables are just as long as their practices, and proudly boasts that eight members of the varsity team were also honor students. “Winning games is important to him but helping kids be successful and good representatives of the school is equally as important,” says Mastalski.

From the way they conduct themselves during interviews, being gracious and humble for all they have accomplished, to the importance they place on academics. From the way they dress for success in classy navy-blue blazers, ties and khakis, to the way they appreciate and celebrate each other – the VASJ basketball team was one of championship caliber long before they won the state title.



Patrick Mastalski '13, Demonte Flannigan '13 and Duane Gibson '13 view wearing their basketball team blazers as a privilege.



Making a difference as an Ursuline and a lawyer

By Joan Mazzolini '79

So far, Joanne Gross has helped steward in a new county government, taught high school and did a stint at a Cleveland law firm. That's just a short synopsis of her career. Her life, though, took a different path midway through her sophomore year of college when she chose to enter the community of the Ursulines. She transferred from Ohio Dominican in Columbus to attend Ursuline College and enter the order, the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland, a ministry that goes back more than 150 years when the first Ursuline sisters arrived in Cleveland from France.

"I loved my time at Villa Angela," says the 1973 graduate. "I'm sure the roots of my faith come from my time at St. Jerome's (her grade school) and at VA. I so admired these women who ran these schools, enjoyed each other's company and enjoyed life."

Sr. Joanne attended VA during the transition from what the girls called the old castle to the new high school and said teachers prepped the girls so they would be ready for the open-concept new school. Entering the new school her senior year was an experience. She loved the large new auditorium, and that year she was Student Council president.

"My years at VA were a great gift," she says. "A time of good friendships, and cultivating a true sense of community, service and faith."

After college, Sr. Joanne's first job was teaching 7th graders at St. Charles in Parma. "Doing that prepared me for everything," she says.

And it has been nearly everything. After two years teaching at Beaumont School – which, like VASJ, is sponsored by the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland – Sr. Joanne entered law school at Cleveland Marshall and graduated in 1986.

For the next several years, Sr. Joanne was the legal counsel for the Ursulines as well as for the college. She also managed to fit in teaching, including constitutional and business law courses. She was involved in the sale of the VA property to the Cleveland Public Library and to the City of Cleveland, resulting in a new library branch and a new park that joins Wildwood Park to the east.

"Part of the deal was for them to use the name Villa Angela," she says.

After joining Cleveland law firm Kelley, McCann & Livingstone (now Taft Stettinius & Hollister, LLP), Sr. Joanne was asked to be

the in-house counsel for Case Western Reserve University. “It was 20 times the volume (as Ursuline) and four times the bureaucracy.”

She laughs about how the firm tried to figure out a way for her to get the annual bonuses, rather than the order.

“‘Can’t we just give it to you?’” they’d ask. Her reply would be the same each time: “No, I made this choice, hand it to the community.”

Missing Catholic education, Sr. Joanne became John Carroll University’s lawyer for several years. At the same time she worked as a juvenile diversion magistrate for South Euclid and began weekly visits to the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Detention Center with Father Jim O’Donnell.

From there her career took a turn into social services and county government. She started at Cuyahoga County as a program officer, but over the years has been involved in myriad projects and programs.

“The community was really encouraging (us) to do more direct service on behalf of the poor and get involved with systemic change,” she says.

She worked on the county’s domestic violence programs, was integral to the renovation of the women’s homeless shelter helping to bring the different agencies and organizations to the table to get the work done.

“I’m really pleased to have been a part of that,” she says.

Her legal training also was needed when she was asked to do analysis and policy work getting the county’s children’s mental health program, known as Tapestry, set up. When residents voted in the charter government for Cuyahoga County, then-County Administrator Jim McCafferty asked her to work full-time on the transition of the new government.

“It was absolutely an incredible fascinating experience,” she says. “As a lawyer, as a person who studies government and history, participating in setting up an entirely new kind of government, who gets that kind of experience? We had to create this entire legislative structure from scratch.”

Today, she works with the County Council members.

“I work primarily in the area of health and human services,

education and human resources policy, advising Council on those and other areas of county government,” she says. “I staff the Council committees in these subject areas.

“Among other things, I have worked on legislation creating the county’s first Educational Assistance Program, as proposed in the charter. I draft other legislation (and) I organized Council’s initial review of possible Charter amendments.”

She also is still involved at Ursuline College where she has

served on the board for nearly 10 years. Nominated by her fellow sister and former sociology teacher at VA, Sr. Kathleen Cooney, Sr. Joanne was recently awarded the Amadeus Rappe Award from Ursuline College.

The award is given annually to one graduate of Ursuline or St. John College who has demonstrated an interest in the college and who has made an outstanding contribution to their religion, profession, home or community.

“*I’m a better woman than I’d otherwise be if I were not an Ursuline.*”

Sr. Joanne certainly fits the bill. “I always say that I’m a better woman than I’d otherwise be if I were not an Ursuline,” she says. “These are women who have grounded me in grace, wisdom and prayer.”

It was these same women who, during her time at VA, taught Sr. Joanne that she could do anything she wanted, regardless of her gender.

“It never occurred to me that a woman couldn’t do something because when we were at VA, no one ever said that things were shut off to you because you were a woman.”

At 58, she likely has at least another career or two in her future. Meanwhile her ties to the past and VA and St. Joe’s remain strong.

“My mother was VA Class of 1948,” she says. “Two sisters graduated from VA, my brother from St. Joe’s.

“VA, St. Joe’s and VASJ have always been schools where people were made to feel like family,” Sr. Joanne says. “The family spirit is there, the ‘let’s do well, let’s serve people and enjoy life’ – safe, family fun if you want to put it in simplistic terms. They still do it and still do it well.”



Sr. Joanne Gross '13 smiles in front of the stained glass window in the chapel at the Ursuline Educational Center.

Joan Mazzolini '79, former reporter for *The Plain Dealer*, is now communications officer for the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland.



Jamie Myers '76 with his two beloved dogs, Sparky and Tori.

Petco CEO

lives life by the numbers

By Richard Osborne '69

Jamie Myers '76, formerly of the Library Club, intramurals, *Norseman*, Big Brothers and the National Honor Society, was back in town recently for a board meeting at John Carroll University. You know, his *other* alma mater.

During his visit, he and a few family members – his dad, his wife, two brothers and a son – stopped by VASJ for a stroll down Memory Lane. It was here in the Viking Village, he recalls, that he developed the analytical and leadership skills that enabled him to achieve extraordinary success in business. In particular, he cites legendary math teachers Frank Macuga and Tim Robertson '62.

“Those are two influences that stand out with me,” he says. “They wanted their students to develop to be the best that they could be. There was that competitive experience that made you want to be the best.”

Their lessons took hold. Today, James M. Myers is chief executive officer of Petco, the San Diego-based national pet store chain with 1,300 outlets in all 50 states. As CEO, Myers leads some 28,000 employees on their own quest to be the best. Among his proudest achievements: Petco recently was named one of the world's most ethical companies.

The path from Library Club (not to mention bowling team scorekeeper) to widely acclaimed corporate leader is analogous to the path Myers took to East 185th Street and Lakeshore Boulevard

each day way back when.

“I was a suburban kid living in Mayfield Village,” he says. “I would ride the bus getting more and more intimidated as I got closer to the city. At first it was an intimidating experience, but then you realize that everyone is there to help you succeed.”

He brings that approach to his business life, where his leadership style can best be described as collaborative. He surrounds himself with smart people and he gives them the tools to succeed. In turn, he says, they help carry him – and his company – to the top.

“I’ve always been a good judge of talent,” he says. “I surround myself with good people. I am a consensus builder.”

You might say he’s simply practicing what he was preached at St. Joseph High School. “After all, that is the Catholic and Christian way of leadership,” he says. “You protect other people’s rights. You rely on each other.”

Myers has put the lessons of St. Joe’s to work throughout his career. He believes the school provided the framework for his success by challenging him to ask questions and to explore things beyond his immediate experience.

“It’s important when you go into the business world that you have the right context of how things work in the wider world,” he says. “You need to ask how we got to this place, how we influence people to get motivated and get aligned around an objective.”

His path to corporate leadership began routinely enough after receiving his accounting degree from John Carroll. He joined Big

Five accounting firm Peat Marwick, later KPMG, in the firm’s Detroit office. After a couple of years in what he calls that “boom and bust town,” he hankered to go to the Southwest.

“I had a desire to go to Phoenix or San Diego,” he says. “There was great growth potential there for young people starting out in business.”

But that was a dream deferred. Instead, he found himself on his way to Lubbock, Texas.

“It was not a plum assignment,” he remembers. But it was a valuable means to an end. “It was part of the story of being young

“You carry your principles with you and you make sure you are asking challenging questions.”



Jamie Myers '76 enjoys watching the San Diego Padres play from the company suite at Petco Park.

and ambitious,” he says.

After almost three years in Lubbock, he was selected for a development program at KPMG headquarters in New York City. From life in Lubbock he was now on Park Avenue, walking to the Manhattan office.

“I loved my time in New York City,” he says. “There is no other city like it in the world.”

He and his wife, Josie, whom he met in Detroit, were enjoying attending Broadway shows and all the excitement that New York represents. Most important, however, he was honing his skills in business planning – from formalizing budgets to developing materials that entrepreneurs could take to banks to get credit.

After a two-year rotation, he was finally awarded that plum assignment in San Diego. “I was in what was known as the Private Business Services Group,” he says. “But I really wanted to get into a business myself.”

He says his desire to put his skills into practice pointed him to Petco, which he describes then as a business that was “small and

struggling to get off the ground.” There was no national pet store chain at the time, and Petco had just about 120 stores in five states. Myers was hired as the company’s controller in 1990.

“We took it to banks to get financing that would allow it to really grow,” he says. And the rest, as they say, is history.

“It has been a tremendous ride,” he says.

Although he did not have his eye on the proverbial corner office, in retrospect his course at Petco certainly seems as if it was headed there from the start.

“I’ve always had confidence and I’ve always had an opinion about everything,” he laughs. “I became one of those outspoken people on the management team.”

It got him noticed. In 1997, he was named Chief Financial Officer. And in 2004, the CEO was ready to step down and he asked Myers to be his successor.

With a background in finance more than management, his challenge was both daunting and irresistible. He took the job, bringing with him the confidence that comes from knowing that if he had the right people heading the company’s vital departments, their expertise would help him succeed.

“You can offer your opinion, but you always leave the decision to the person in charge,” he believes, which is not to say he doesn’t deftly guide the discussion in the direction he believes it should go. “You carry your principles with you and you make sure you are asking challenging questions.”

Which all goes back to the lessons he learned right here at the alma mater he shares with two of his three brothers – Joseph ’78, an architect in Willoughby, and Jeffry ’79, who is Chief Operating Officer of The Village at Marymount, a continuing care community in Garfield Heights. A third brother, John, was graduated from high school in Detroit where the Myers family moved when Leaseway transferred their dad there.

Myers and his wife have three sons: Nicholas, Zachary and Joshua. At 55, he can enjoy the satisfaction of a personal and business success beyond any measure of what he might have imagined back as a student at St. Joe’s. He even has the luxury of thinking about all that as he watches the San Diego Padres play from his perch in the company suite at Petco Park.

But he knows that is not really what success is all about.

The real objective is to do what Mr. Macuga and Mr. Robertson did for him: “It is the degree to which you can inspire people to do their best.”

Richard Osborne '69 is the president of Villa Angela-St. Joseph High School.

Ursuline president addresses students

Sr. Susan Durkin, president of the Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland, gave a presentation to the students during an all-school assembly on May 9 about the history of the Ursulines, the significance of the Ursuline core values and what it means to be an Ursuline-sponsored school.



Track advances to State

The relay teams, alternates and coaches pose for a picture at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium in Columbus. For the second year in a row, the VASJ track team sent athletes to the state tournament. Both the girls and boys 4x100 relay teams advanced to the state semi-finals after placing third at regionals.

Baseball wins North Coast League championship

For the first time, the VASJ boys baseball team won the North Coast League championship in the white division. Patrick Mastalski '13 was named MVP of the North Coast League white division. Mastalski, along with teammates Pat Burke '13, Jeff Grudzinski '15 and Simon Texidor '15, earned first-team all-league honors. Dylan Hinton '13, Zack Fuentes '13 and Dan Gail '16 earned second-team all-league while Nunzio Gimmelli '15 was honorable mention.





100%
headed to college



After three years at VASJ, Senior Sunghee Han headed back to Korea, leaving before the official graduation ceremony. A group of seniors decided to throw a mini graduation celebration in his honor, allowing him to wear his cap and gown and receive his official Viking lapel pin.

Senior Class President Trashay Harris and Student Council President Domenic Nicholas, who also was the class salutatorian, lead the Class of 2013 into the gym for Baccalaureate. For the second year in a row, 100 percent of VASJ's graduating seniors are heading to college. In addition to this amazing accomplishment, the Class of 2013 earned over \$3.4 million in college scholarships! Watch for more graduation information in the next issue of VASJ Magazine.



Students volunteer at
Special Olympics
tournament

A group of VASJ students and math teacher Gary Minadeo '74 visit with Frank Zukowski '57 at the Regional Special Olympics tournament held in May at Wickliffe High School. This was the third year Minadeo, a Knight himself, organized at VASJ work crew for the event which is sponsored by the Wickliffe Knights of Columbus Council 5405, a Catholic men's organization. The students had a major impact on the success of the event and had the opportunity to meet plenty of alums in the process.

CLASS NOTES

1950s

SJ '58: The St. Joseph High School Class of 1958 held its 55th class reunion the weekend of June 28, 2013. The festivities included a "stag" night on Friday at the Pine Lake Trout Club



in Bainbridge and a gala dinner at the Radisson in Eastlake on Saturday.

SJ '59: VASJ head football coach John Storey was named the 2012 Golden Deeds Award recipient for the Greater Cleveland Football Coaches Association (GCFCA) and was honored at an awards banquet in April 2013. He is pictured with Matt Chinchar '69, assistant coach at Glenville High School.



1960s

SJ '61: The St. Joseph High School Class of 1961 website (www.sjhs1961.com) has had 15,000 hits since the reunion two years ago. Please email Dave Pfriem at pfriem@sbcglobal.net with updates you would like to share with the class and he will add them to the website. Dave sends congrats to his fellow Vikings. "It is amazing to see the wonderful, solid life outcomes the class has had, due in part to the education we received from the Marianists and lay faculty and staff of St. Joseph High School," he says.

SJ '63: The St. Joseph High School Class of 1963 will be holding its 50th reunion the weekend of August 30-31, 2013. For more information, please contact Dan Finucan at 440-639-8671 or danielfanucan@yahoo.com or Jerry Thomas at 440-209-9677 or j629m@att.net.

VA '63: The Villa Angela Class of 1963 held its 50th reunion on June 22, 2013, at Pine Ridge Country Club.

VA '63: **Mary Anne Thompson** recently celebrated her 10th anniversary at the Cleveland Clinic as a telephone operator. She has been a telephone operator for 25 years. She is actively

involved in her parish at Ss. Robert & William and is a Eucharistic minister and a member of the Legion of Mary. She resides in Euclid.

SJ '64: **Thomas Ledinsky** has been retired for 18 years and enjoys playing golf at Sugar Valley Country Club. His wife, Ginny, owns and has been showing "American Saddlebreds" for almost 50 years. Their daughter, Melissa, teaches at her alma mater, The University of Dayton. Tom "Led" invites his former classmates to come to Dayton for some golf and entertainment.

1970s

VA '72: On September 29, 2012, more than 80 members of the VA Class of 1972 gathered for an evening of reminiscing and



reconnecting. Food from Louise's Catering was enjoyed by all and music of the 70s brought back more memories while Sisters Anne Marie Diederich and **Rosemary Hocevar '55** joined the festivities. Women came from all over the country to catch up on each other's lives. The planning committee definitely felt the evening was a huge success.

SJ '73: The St. Joseph High School Class of 1973 will be celebrating its 40th reunion at Cebars on E. 185th Street on Saturday, July 13, with a band and food. They are also trying to get a golf outing together, so any golfers who want to help, please contact Dale Miklus at damiklus@yahoo.com or 440-834-1186.

SJ '73: **Michael Donner-Dlugolecki** has been selling and winning awards for his fine art paintings and drawings for the past 30 years. His work can be seen on The Hughes Gallery website at hughesgallery.net. He recently had a piece on display in the 2013 May Show at Lakeland College.

VA '73: **Debra (Biggs) Thomas** recently finished her fifth year in coordination of the Michigan eLibrary, the State of Michigan's 24/7 library. She would love to reconnect with classmates on Facebook!

1980s

SJ '83: The St. Joseph High School Class of 1983 will be celebrating its 30th reunion at the annual Oarsmen Clambake on October 11, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Mullin at 216-210-5552 or krmulls@gmail.com.

VA '84: The Villa Angela Class of 1984 will be celebrating its 30th reunion in 2014. If you plan to help and/or attend the reunion, contact Mary Ann (Yopko) Milo at 216-392-6467 or mamilo@earthlink.net.

VA '88: The Villa Angela Class of 1988 is celebrating its 25th reunion the weekend of October 11-12, 2013. The class will be enjoying Friday night together at Panini's and a sit-down dinner on Saturday. Please contact Kristè Vedegys Duhigg at 216-481-8414 ext. 206 for more information.

1900s

VASJ '94: **Roberta (Niland) Antonelli** has been married to her wonderful husband, Mark, for seven years. They have two beautiful boys, Joey, who is 3 ½, and Michael, who is 13 months. She is a Registered Nurse at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital where she loves taking care of the children and their families.



VASJ '95: **Aisha (Wright) Kutter**, Co-Founder and CEO of KutterGroup LLC, a certified Minority & Woman owned enterprise, was awarded with the Dutchess County (New York) Regional Chamber of Commerce's 40 Under 40 "Shaker" Awards for 2013. Kutter has successfully managed to grow her business in a tough

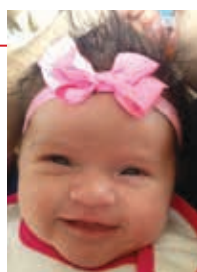
economy and volunteers her services as well as provides financial support to local charities, including the This Is Me Foundation and The Kathleen F. Marks Memorial Foundation. Prior to founding KutterGroup LLC, Kutter had a successful career at the New York Power Authority and is a graduate of Marist College, cum laude, Class of 2000.

VASJ '96: **Bernard Scott** was promoted to Associate Head Coach for the Cleveland State University women's basketball team.

VASJ '98: **Greg Kolovich** is an orthopedic surgeon and has a fellowship at Harvard University. He will study extensive surgery for the hand, elbow and shoulder injuries.

2000s

VASJ '01: **Tom Bildstein** and his wife, Katie, welcomed their first child, Taylor Anne, on March 5, 2013.



VASJ '03: The dates have been set for the VASJ Class of 2003 10-year reunion weekend. Clear your calendars for the weekend of September 28-29, 2013. If you have any questions contact Kellie Clinton at kelinton@vasj.com or Tim Neary at tneary@vasj.com.

VASJ '03: **Tim Neary** graduated from the University of Dayton in May of '07 with a Bachelor of Arts in Education. He has taught in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Dayton Public Schools and assisted in formation of an autistic program to primary Children in Taicang, China. He is currently serving as Director of the Marianist Urban Student Program at VASJ while pursuing a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Dayton.



VASJ '08: **Christopher Laboda** graduated from John Carroll University on May 19, 2013, with a double major and is working as Staff Accountant-Audit at Maloney + Novotny, LLC.



VASJ '09: **Kristen Mott** graduated summa cum laude from Cleveland State University on May 11, 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism & Promotional Communication. She has accepted a full-time position at the *Cleveland Jewish News* in Beachwood as a staff reporter.



Keep up with VASJ on facebook.
www.facebook.com/VASJvikings

Be a part of Villa Angela-St Joseph High School history!

We are in the process of updating our school's alumni directory. You may receive an email, phone call or postcard from Alumni Research Inc. asking for your participation. Please follow the instructions you were given about logging into the site and updating your information. For your convenience, you can also visit vasj.com/update-contact-information to access the link. Make sure you are included in this new directory.

IN MEMORIAM

Thomas Alvord '62 passed away in February 2013.

Michael Alexander '68, brother of Ted Alexander '64, passed away in December 2013 at the age of 62.

Nick Catanese '77, brother of Pete Catanese '74, passed away in October 2012 at the age of 53.

Walter Allen "Al" Cole Jr. '79 passed away in February 2013 at the age of 52.

Augustine "Gus" Cooper '86, brother of John Cooper '82, Jim Cooper '83, Carole (Cooper) McCarthy '85 and Susan Cooper-Pytel '87, passed away in March 2013 at the age of 44.

Leonard Dannemiller '58 passed away in July 2012.

Antonina Digulis, mother of Rosemarie (Digulis) Zeitz '74, Elizabeth (Digulis) Garin '76 and Regina (Digulis) Boone '78, passed away in February 2013.

Stephen J. Emser '61 passed away in February 2013.

William Eppich '58 passed away in March 2012 at the age of 73.

Brittney Gallagher, daughter of Mariann Gallagher and Neil Gallagher '77, passed away in March 2013 at the age of 21.

Mark Gaspar, husband of Nancy (Borgsteadt) Gaspar '56, passed away in February 2013 at the age of 74.

Daniel Gillen '59 passed away in March 2013 at the age of 73.

Louis Robert Golic, father of Robert Golic '75, Gregory Golic '78 and Michael Golic '81, passed away in June 2013 at the age of 82.

Timothy Gorman '73 passed away in January 2013 at the age of 57.

Michael Hoag '76, son of James Hoag '55, brother of Anne (Hoag) Savage '81 and James Hoag Jr. '86, passed away in January 2012 at the age of 54.

Judge "Ted" R. Klammer '64 passed away in March 2013 at the age of 66.

Matthew Kaschalk '82 passed away in May 2013 at the age of 48.

Patricia Lucha, wife of Richard Lucha '58, passed away in March of 2013 at the age of 70.

Barbara M. (Hancox) Madea '63 passed away in June 2013 at the age of 67.

Hedy Ann Mulhausen '58, sister of William Mulhausen '63, passed away on March 30, 2013 at the age of 73.

Tom Okulovich '82 passed away in April 2013 at the age of 49.

Mary (Omahen) Andrus '76 passed away in 2011 at the age of 53.

Joseph Perko '69 passed away in July 2012.

Thomas J. Radina '61 passed away in January 2013 at the age of 69.

Thomas Rask '67 passed away in March 2012 at the age of 67.

Richard Sandy '58 passed away in August 2012 at the age of 71.

Christine (Oberst) Shaefer '78, mother of Zach Shaefer '15, passed away in March 2013 at the age of 53.

George H. Shima Jr., father of Scott Shima '79 and Keith Shima '85, passed away in January 2013 at the age of 80.

Mary Ann (McDunn) Stevenson '53 passed away in April 2013 at the age of 77.

Arlyne Marie Taddeo, sister of Tim LaGanke '58, passed away in January 2012.

Gregory Takacs '62 passed away in March 2013.

Lou Turri Jr., father of Louis Turri '77, Gerald Turri '79, John Turri '82, Matt Turri '87 and Dan Turri '89, passed away in February 2013 at the age of 89.

Frank Urbancic '68 passed away in April 2013 at the age of 62.

Donald J. Voss '63 passed away in March 2013 at the age of 68.

John V. Yasenoksy Jr. '59, father of John V. Yasenoksy III '85, passed away in March 2013 at the age of 71.

Alexandra (Lewis) Zeroff '49 passed away in March 2013 at the age of 81.

VASJ deeply appreciates being notified when a graduate passes away. If you have such news to share, please contact Kellie Clinton '03, alumni & admissions coordinator, at kclinton@vasj.com or 216-481-8414 ext. 284.

It's time for your

Milestone Reunion

1963-50 years

1973-40 years

1988-25 years

2003-10 years

1968-45 years

1978-35 years

1993-20 years

2008-5 years

1983- 30 years

1998-15 years

If you are interested in attending your reunion, participating in the planning, or finding out how to keep in touch with your classmates, please contact Kellie Clinton '03, alumni & admissions coordinator, at kclinton@vasj.com or 216-481-8414 x284

Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with your classmates!

VASJ Magazine wins awards!



2013 Ohio Excellence in Journalism Awards

First Place for Covers: Trade & Professional Publications -

College Bound
Photographer: Emily Robinson

Second Place for Covers: Trade & Professional Publications -

Learning to Lead
Photographer: Emily Robinson

First Place for Features: Personality Profile in a Trade Publication -

Tim Misny '73 profile
By Richard Osborne '69

Third Place for Trade Report in a Trade Publication -

Learning to Lead and College Bound -
Celebrating the successes of VASJ students
By Emily Robinson



2012 Lake Communicators APEX Awards

Gold Award for Magazines - VASJ Magazine

Gold Award for Commercial Photography -

Spring/Summer 2012 Cover
Photographer: Emily Robinson

Silver Award for Commercial Photography -

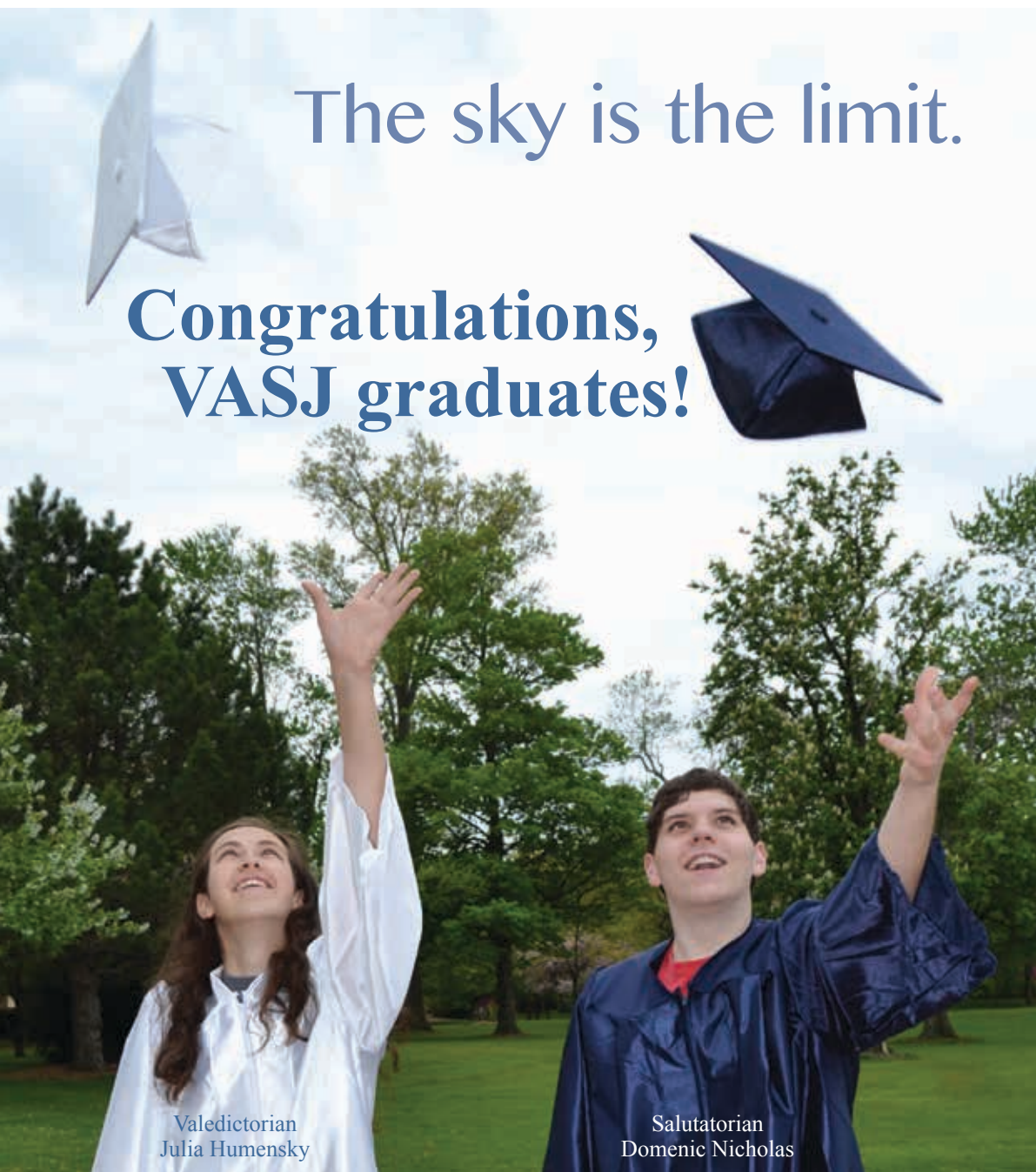
Winter 2011-2012 Cover
Photographer: Emily Robinson



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The sky is the limit.

**Congratulations,
VASJ graduates!**

Valedictorian
Julia Humensky

Salutatorian
Domenic Nicholas

Class of 2013: 100% heading to college.
Over \$3.4 million earned in scholarships.

**SAVE
THE DATE!**
www.vasj.com/calendar

Opening Mass

September 5, 2013

Rosary Prayer Service

October 3, 2013

Open House

October 9, 2013

Oarsmen Club Clambake

October 11, 2013

Homecoming Football Game

October 19, 2013

Red Cross Blood Drive

October 25, 2013

All Saints Day Liturgy

November 1, 2013

Alumni Memorial Mass

November 2, 2013

Open House

November 14, 2013

Legacy Luncheon

December 13, 2013

Fall Play

November 22-24, 2013

Founders Day Liturgy

January 23, 2014

Classic Mixer Annual Gala

April 5, 2014

Ladies Night Out Event

May 1, 2014