



SUMMER 2023



Blue White—Bridging the financial gap!

Celebrate 50 Years of Service-!!



**Executive Director's
Message
Kate Cellucci**

Summer started with some lovely surprises. Our first place Mother's Day Raffle winner, came to the Blue White Reunion on Friday June 9th. I was thrilled to present his wife with a check because they have been buying the raffle tickets for years and I had remembered a conversation with Diane with her telling me, "I never win anything" so it was with great pleasure that I called her to say "You won first prize!" We had a good laugh at the luncheon and Jack and Diane surprised me with a very generous contribution to BWSF. At this time I also interviewed Jack to write his story. **See pages 8, 9 and 10.**

Our second prize winner had a similar situation, but in this case it was a hand written note on the envelope that said "It is my turn to win, don't forget!!". I couldn't believe when his number was pulled. I mean what are the odds?

A sincere thank you to all of you who participated in this fundraiser.

Shortfall: We were blessed a couple weeks later when our shortfall was made up by one donor who actually lives abroad. His \$25,000 donation is allowing 3 more students to stay at Villanova and graduate.!

Student

Update: We have processed all 44 of the student applications and narrowed it down to 17 -22 students. A big "thanks" goes to Mary Kay Klara our counterpoint with the University, who tirelessly spent weeks processing the FASFA forms for the students who applied for 2023-2024 and was able to get this information to us in June instead of July. Now after the Judges (You -The donors) rate and select their top choices, we can match the "Unmet Need" and finalize which students we will select to be Blue White Scholars. Final results will be published in the Fall Newsletter.



**A Back To School New idea: Pet Blessings (Pictured Kelly Keil 24)
See pages 16 &17**

Our big news is that we will be celebrating in the Fall the 50th Anniversary

of the original non-profit. Our predecessor, a sports booster club was called The Wildcat Club. It was founded in September 1973



and one of the original four founders Dr. Ronald (Bud) Russo, is still alive and donating. Invitations will be going out to both donors, and all of the scholars from our first awardees, the Class of 2001 to the Class of 2024.

In 2000 the Wildcat Club ceased operating as the sports booster club for Villanova and changed its name to the Blue White Scholarship Foundation and its mission to "Bridging the Financial Aid Gap". The first class to benefit from this decision was the Class of 2001. So soon we will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the scholarship foundation, but this year let us pay tribute to all of you who have stayed the course over the past 50 years.

**Kick off Party for the 50th Anniversary Year-October 28
\$100 donation pp
SAVE THE DATE:**

**WHEN:
OCTOBER 28,
2023**

**WHAT:
Homecoming
Football Tailgate
from 12 -2 pm &
After Party 6-
10pm (Open
bar & dinner) .**

**WHERE: Saturday
Club, Wayne PA
Only 100 Tickets- This
will sell out! (Q. 610-519-0777)**



Kate



Congratulations to Eponine Lupo and Francesco Auddino on their marriage!

Ep and Frank took their wedding vows in March. It was a beautiful ceremony held at St. Thomas Church on campus and the reception was out of this world. These two young Villanovans both lost their Fathers early in life and are so grateful to have found each other. They wanted to party like there was no tomorrow! Both of them worked their way through school and Eponine is a 2012 Blue White Scholar.

Congratulations to Eponine Lupo and Francesco Auddino on Joining the BWSF 2023-2024 Board of Directors

To our delight, both wife and husband would like to help younger people working their way through school and they love the concept of "Paying It Forward," so we welcome both husband and wife to the 2023-2024 Blue White Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors.

Announcements for Additional New Board Members will be in the Fall



HOMECOMING TAILGATE

YOU ARE INVITED:

Saturday October 28th

12 - 2 pm

Location:

Space #124-Parking Lot

(Behind the Football Stadium
next to the Pavilion)

GO CATS
GO!

Bring a chair, some friends and something to share!

Our mission is to "Bridge the Financial Aid Gap" You are making a real difference! Please help spread the word of our mission with other alumni and your family who attended Villanova. Help spread the word!
-Ask others to support us

Q: What is an endowment fund?

A: An endowment fund is a permanently restricted, self-sustaining source of funding. Endowment assets are invested. Each year, a portion of the fund's earnings are paid out to support the scholarship program. Earnings in excess of this distribution are used to build the fund's market value. In this way, an endowment fund can grow and provide support for its designated purpose in perpetuity. **When you establish an endowment fund, you create a permanent legacy granting scholarships in your name.**

Q: How much money does it take to fund an endowment?

A: There are two key types of gifts each with different participation levels:

Scholarship in Perpetuity - \$25,000+ will establish a named scholarship in your name or your beloved's name. This scholarship can be targeted for a particular major or school such as the Engineering School or a particular major such as Biology. The student will be chosen based on your scholarship-granting guidelines

Family Legacy Fund - A \$50,00-150,000+ gift will also establish a named endowment. A copy of your bio will be given every year to each student who receives this scholarship. This fund will grant as many Scholarships as can be funded from the endowment's earnings each year.

Additionally, with a Family Legacy Fund, you and multiple generations of your family may participate in selecting each Scholarship, including reviewing Scholarship applications. Each succeeding generation in your family will be reminded of your generosity.

Q: Do I need to fund my endowment in one payment?

A: No! We can accept pledges for up to five years, or you can create an endowment through a planned gift (will, trust, life insurance policy). You can even invite friends and family to donate to your fund.



Colby Luiz

Hometown

East Providence, RI

Major

Biology / Spanish Studies

School Activities:

- Beta Beta Beta (National Biological Honor Society)
- Club Ultimate Frisbee
- Pre-Medical Club
- Spanish Club
- Villanova Leadership Club
- Villanova Student Sustainability Committee
- Day of Service & Special Olympics Volunteer

Career Aspirations:

I aspire to one day work as a doctor or surgeon in order to improve the quality of life for others.

How the Blue White Scholarship is helping:

The BW Scholarship is allowing me to "bridge the gap" between my family's expected financial contribution and my financial aid award. As a middle class family who has sent two children to top-notch private institutions, we have each taken our share of responsibility to contribute to our education through working hard in the classroom and in various jobs. The Blue White Scholarship eases some of this pressure and will allow me to focus 100% of my time and effort into my studies.

Jobs you have worked to help pay for school:

- Automotive Wash & Detail: Viti Mercedes Benz 2020-22
- Pizza Artisan: SNAP custom Pizza (2022-Present)
- Concessions Employee: Pawtucket Red Sox (2017-20)



Erin Welch '23
(Cover Picture)

Hometown
Philadelphia, PA

Major Biology

School Activities:

- Varsity Women's Rowing
- Resident Assistant
- Community Outreach Volunteer
- Alpha Epsilon Delta (Pre-Health Honors Society)

Career Aspiration:

I am working towards becoming a physician for the United States Navy.

Favorite Quote:

"Pray not alone for victory, but for the courage to endure."- Michael Brown, Merion Mercy Academy Rowing

How the Blue White Scholarship is helping:

The Blue White Scholarship is not simply helping me and my family afford my education, but it is helping me excel academically and professionally. The scholarship has eased the financial burden and allowed me to focus on performing in the classroom and on the river. Moreover, the BW Scholarship has offered a network of alumni with values similar to my own who are willing to "pay it forward" and help me excel professionally. I am incredibly honored and grateful to be a part of such an organization.

Jobs I have worked to help pay for school:

- Assistant Rowing Coach-Merion Mercy Academy
- Server- Fitzpatrick's Tavern & Hassles Ice Cream
- Emergency Room Technician

Extraordinary Circumstances: In 2019, my mother lost her job due to the closure of Hahnemann University Hospital, which affected my family in the long term. My mother worked as a CT Tech at Hahnemann for 28 years, and in 2019 they filed Bankruptcy--giving my family and the other 2,500 employees only 60 days notice. Due to this bankruptcy filing, we not only lost our main income for a period, vacation time accrued, severance, and my mother's pension. My mom found employment at another facility with a lower pay and a 36 hour work week with no benefits thus far, my family is financially strained. We are grateful for the aid that I have received from Villanova, but losing our main income on such short notice undoubtedly affected our entire family situation in the long term. Then my dad changed occupations to a stevedore for Delaware River Stevedores, Inc. causing more instability.



Lucas Yannul '23

Hometown
North Wales, PA
Major Computer Engineering

School Activities:

- Club Lacrosse-Player
- Manna on Mainstreet-Volunteer
- Special Olympics
- Rays of Sunshine
- Intramural Sports (Basketball, Soccer, Volleyball)

Career Aspirations:

I plan to be a full-stack Software Engineer working on innovative technologies that impact thousands of people.

Favorite Quote:

"It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get back up"- Vince Lombardi

How the Blue-White Scholarship is helping:

I am solely responsible for paying for my schooling. This scholarship will greatly assist me in reducing the amount of student loans that I need to pay off.

Jobs I've worked to help pay for school:

- Old York Road Country Club- Busser/Waiter
- ICANON-Software Engineering Intern
- PALCO-Support Service Professional (SSP).

Extraordinary Circumstances. My 24-year-old brother, Mitchell, was diagnosed with Autism when he was four years old. When he was fifteen, he was additionally diagnosed with ID (Intellectual Disability). Most recently in 2017, Mitchell was given a third diagnosis of schizophrenia. My home living and financial situation has become profoundly difficult and stressful on my family. These constant visits to the hospital, as well as the payment for all of Mitchell's medical and physical care has put a serious financial strain on our family. That financial strain began in 2002 and has only exponentially increased with the subsequent diagnoses. Currently, Mitchell is constantly visiting numerous doctors and trying different medications in hopes of getting a handle on the situation so he can be in a stable and livable state. We will never give up hope no matter how long it takes until my brother is stable and free from his terrible mental torture. In the meantime, this has left me with the duty of both helping my family care for my brother as well as being financially responsible for my college tuition.

SPOTLIGHT: Colby Luiz '24– “Future Doctor”-Perseverance



My name is Colby Luiz, and I am a Villanova University undergraduate student from East

Biology and Spanish language through online courses and books, and also found a job at Viti Mercedes Benz detailing, washing, and delivering cars. Working 50 – 60 hours a week for Mercedes Benz was necessary for me to fund my college career at Villanova University, and I learned lessons of perseverance and determination that will undoubtedly influence me for years to come.

Providence, Rhode Island. I am pursuing a double major in Biology and Spanish Studies on a Pre-Med track in hopes of one day becoming a surgeon. The generous donation to my education on behalf of the Blue & White Scholarship and donors like you are what make my educational and professional aspirations possible!

I attended high school at St. Raphael Academy in Pawtucket, Rhode Island; a small catholic school which sparked my passions for both Biology and Spanish Studies. The various classes I took in the sciences, arts, and languages molded me into the collegiate student I would become. I had the opportunity to learn from teachers that I can truly call my mentors and friends, who showed me that the goals of my career and life should be to be the positive change that I want to see in the world. Another role model in my life was my sister Peyton, who is two years older than me. Seeing how Peyton worked hard to graduate at the top of her high school class while working multiple jobs, and then went on to excel at Georgetown University while balancing her jobs and education showed me that it was possible for me to follow a similar path. It was during high school that I began working as an employee at the Pawtucket Red Sox in order to contribute to my education, and this job opportunity taught me the value of being a dependable employee that can balance both school and work.

Everything changed for me during my senior year of high school when the COVID-19 struck the world. I suddenly found myself taking online classes to finish my senior year and was also out of a job. Instead of lamenting the lost time in the classroom and the lost money from months without working, I took the initiative to use my spare time to enrich my passions of



Me at my high school graduation from St. Raphael Academy (2020)

Freshman year at Villanova was difficult due to the pandemic. Online classes did not provide me with the face-to-face connection that I loved about learning, and social distancing regulations prevented me from being involved on campus or finding a job to help fund my education. I had to push myself each and every day to complete my work and try my very best because I knew the sacrifices that my parents had made to allow me to study at Villanova. I felt immense pressure to achieve great things and would be disappointed in myself when I felt I did not perform to my potential. I was also concerned with how I was going to continue funding my education, as months without work put a strain on my families finances.



My first time as a student at Villanova University (2020)

Sophomore year at Villanova was an improvement for me. Classes returned to in-person learning environments and the educational spark was rekindled for me. I found a job working as a Pizza Artisan at SNAP Custom Pizza in Rosemont, PA; and worked 20-30 hours a week in between and after classes and studying in order to make money to contribute to my education. Although I missed out on hours of studying and social time with my friends, I knew that the sacrifices I was making were paying off. I began to perform better in the classroom and was on track with my financial contributions to my education. I was blessed to be the recipient of multiple scholarships and grants such as the Blue & White Scholarship Award that ease the financial pressures of my education and will allow me to devote more of my time to excelling in the classroom and enriching my studies in Biology and Spanish Studies.

Junior year I studied abroad for the Fall semester in Spain and loved it!

SNAP Custom Pizza in Rosemont (The Hawaiian is my favorite!)



Although it was not always easy, I believe that the past few years have set me up to be a resilient student and professional who will not back down when faced with a challenge. I have learned values of hard work and persistence and will continue to grow as a student and individual to achieve my career goals and be that change that I have always wanted to affect in the world!

Colby is now in his senior year. He will be applying to medical school when he graduates in May 2024.

Student SPOTLIGHT: Lucas Yannul '23– Software Engineering



When thinking about something that has had the biggest influence in my life today,

my mind

directs itself to one spectacular person; this person was my cousin Eddie. Eddie was an incredibly smart man and was deeply interested in hardware and software technologies as well as being adventurous person outdoors as an Eagle Scout. Unfortunately, when Eddie was 24, he was diagnosed with ALS and passed away after a hard-fought 5-year battle.



Eddie and I at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

It was Eddie that sparked my interest with electronics and engineering. I remember summers where he would buy soldering kits and teach me the basic of circuit assembly and soldering when I was around 10 years old. Soon, he was unable to use his hands to work on some projects of his own, so I became his working hands to do the soldering and assembly. With his patience and guidance, we completed a lot of small, but very fun projects together. He then introduced me to the world of software where he got me to write my first "Hello, world!" program in C# and later into

some more interesting projects.

Throughout his 5-year battle Eddie never quit nor did he ever mutter a single complaint, he just powered through. He taught me more than soldering and coding, he taught me what it looks like to persevere through whatever circumstances you are thrown in. I think about his lessons constantly in my life whenever I am faced with difficult situation or time. To always stand back up after you get knocked down, regardless of your setbacks.



Me putting a pair of night-vision glasses on Eddie

After thoroughly enjoying the small soldering projects we worked on together, I began to start similar projects of my own. I started with some simple and easy little devices since I was doing this without Eddie's guidance. These devices would do basic things like make a sound when a button was pressed, or light up an LED when a switch was flipped. Soon I began to take on more complex projects with some software integration, working with Arduino's and Raspberry Pi's.

The integration of software with hardware in these projects is what grew my passion for engineering. When choosing my major at Villanova, I knew without hesitation that I wanted to study Computer Engineering.



Left to right: Eddie, me, my cousin Christine, my mom, and my sister

I began to dive deeper into the software side of things, working on programming games and designing small websites. Here is where I found what I wanted to do for my career. The limitless bounds for creativity and innovation in the world of programming drew me in. After seeing what I could do with just a few hours working on a personal project, I wanted to see the bigger and more powerful applications that could be built with more time and knowledge. I soon found out about the career of Software Engineering, where I could pursue what I did for fun as a career! As I have progressed through college, I have worked towards landing a job in this field. Continuing to build personal apps and games in my free time as well as honing in my technical skills in a formal school setting. In Eddie's short life, he was already an incredibly accomplished engineer with a master's degree in engineering as well as receiving a patent shortly after his passing. He sparked the fire of engineering inside me, and he is also my motivation to achieve great things in my career as an engineer. Lucas has now graduated. To read more about Lucas since graduation and his plans go to page 18.

Donor of the Month Jack Lynch '63- A "Home Run " Life

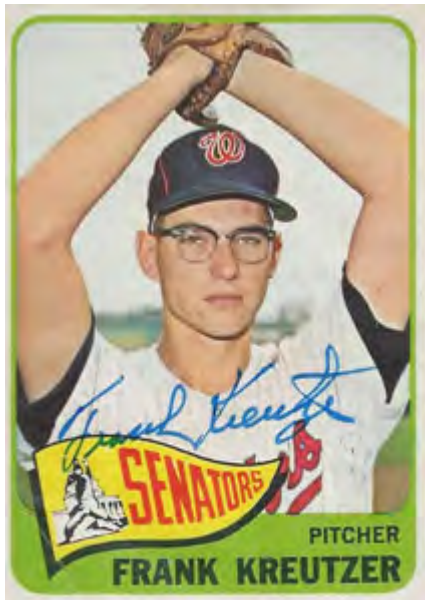
Donor of the Month-John (Jack) Lynch-

Patience is a virtue, I thought after calling Jack and Diane Lynch to tell them they had won 1st prize for the Mother's Day Auction. They have continuously bought a couple of tickets every year. Now that's loyalty.

"I never win anything" exclaimed Diane Lynch when I called her and her husband John (Jack) Lynch'63 about buying a 2023 Mother's Day Raffle, but this year changed all that. They won first prize!

It just so happened that this was Jack's 60th VU Anniversary and we all had a chance to meet at the Blue White Reunion Luncheon. It was there that we presented an oversized check and had a good laugh, but I did want to hear about Jack's life.

Jack has had an amazing life. He attended Villanova on a half baseball



scholarship. He explained that there were only 3 scholarships so 1 of those was split between Jack and his roommate. The baseball team was

amazing. Freshman year, Jack got to play with Frank Kreutzer who was two years ahead of Jack and Bruce Howard who was one year behind Jack. Frank Kreutzer left Villanova to play in the Major Leagues (Chicago White Sox-3 years and Senators- 4 years) as well as Bruce Howard (White Sox- 5 years, Orioles-1 year



and Senators-1 year) Their Coach and Athletic Director, Art Mahan took the team to the NCAA tournament in 1960 and 1961. Jack's roommate, Danny Baler went on to play Minor League baseball for the Orioles. In 1963, Jack and Richard "Richie" Richman were Co-Captains of the team their Senior year. Richie that year played on the VU football team as one of the quarterbacks and played in the Liberty Bowl (they won!!!) , the basketball team and of course the baseball team. After college "Richie" played Minor League baseball with the Phillies organization and then professional football in the Continental Football League. Jack graduated, got married, started a family and played Minor League baseball a couple of years with the Yankees.

I asked Jack what it was like to play professionally and I challenged him to take the baseball quiz I published in the Spring Newsletter. He laughed. We played. Question #5 was "What player has the longest hitting streak in major league history"? The answer: Joe DiMaggio. I asked if he met Mr. DiMaggio. He said yes and told me that the story about him sending fresh flowers to his former wife and famous actress, Marilyn Monroe's grave every day was true. He also talked about the "Green Book" which was a term used for the listing of places that the Black players on the team could go to sleep and eat. The entire team though segregation was a crime and then in August 1964 when The Civil Rights Act legislation was passed it was over in 24 hours and the team worked, ate and slept together.

Jack's true calling, however, was to teach. Jack taught for 35 years at Cedar Grove High School and was a baseball coach. The subjects he taught were Economics, Social and Cultural Studies, New Jersey History and Foreign Policy, but his very favorite subject was American History. He told me that he was in awe of the United States' "Experiment".

Quiz: Can You Answer the Hardest Citizenship Test Questions?

Thousands of people will become American citizens around Independence Day. But first they have to pass a citizenship test. Could you do the same?

By NICHOLAS BOGEL-BURROUGHS JULY 3, 2019

Jack Lynch, his co-captain Richie Richmond, and their Villanova baseball coach Art Mahan



4. Which statement correctly describes the “**rule of law**”?
The law is what the president says it is
The people who enforce the laws do not have to follow them
No one is above the law
Judges can rewrite laws they disagree with

5. Under the Constitution, which of these powers **does not belong to the federal government**?
Ratify amendments to the Constitution
Print money
Declare war
Make treaties with foreign powers

For the test, a United States Citizenship and Immigration Services officer randomly selects a set of 10 questions from a list of 100, and reads them in English to the applicant, who must orally answer at least six correctly.

Here we're testing you on the questions that the volunteer test-takers most often flubbed, with an exception: We've omitted one — “Name your U.S. Representative” — because the correct answer depends on where you live.

1. How many amendments does the Constitution have?

- 14
- 21
- 25
- 27

2. Which of these is something Benjamin Franklin is known for?

- He was the first person to sign the Constitution
- He discovered electricity
- He was the nation's first postmaster general
- He was the nation's second president

3 Who was President during World War I?

- Woodrow Wilson
- Warren Harding
- Calvin Coolidge
- Franklin D. Roosevelt

6. We elect a U.S. Senator for how many years?

- Four years
- Six years
- Eight years
- Twelve years

7. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States now?

- John G. Roberts Jr.
- Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- William P. Barr
- Brett M. Kavanaugh

8. The House of Representatives has how many voting members?

- 100
- 435
- 535
- 538

9. The Federalist Papers supported the passage of the U.S. Constitution.

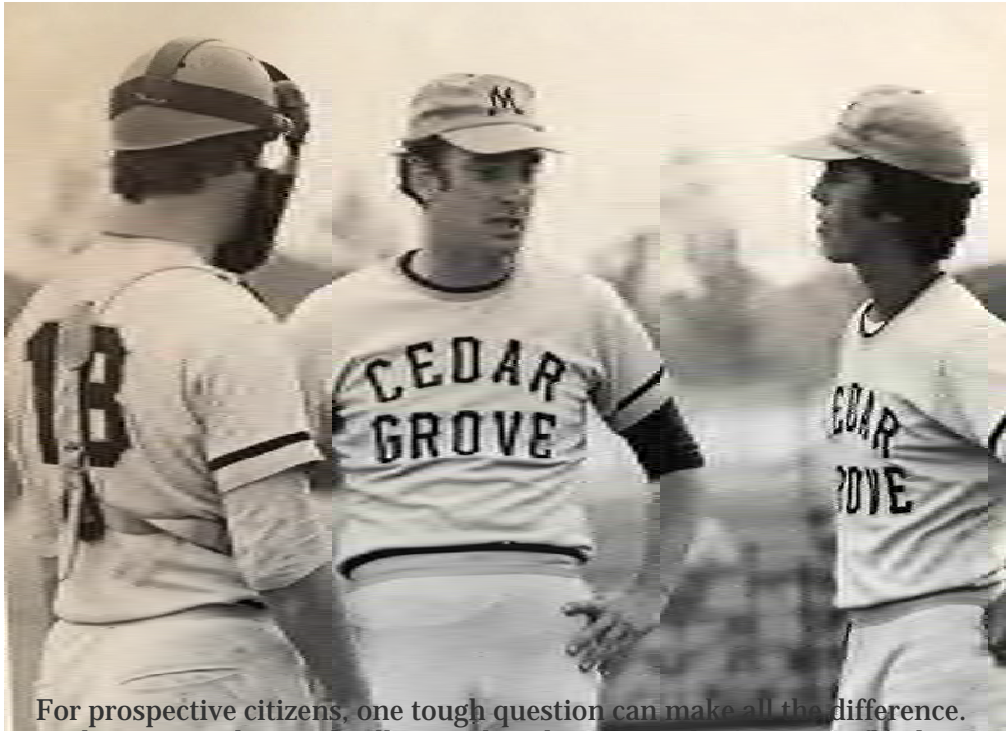
Which of these men was not one of the authors?

- James Madison
- Alexander Hamilton
- John Jay
- John Adams

10. When was the Constitution written?

- 1492
- 1776
- 1787
- 1865

(Answers are on the next page)



For prospective citizens, one tough question can make all the difference.

In the 2011 study, nearly all test-takers knew why the American flag has 50 stars, but fewer than one in 10 knew the date when the Constitution was written, and only about one in 8 could name one of the writers of the Federalist Papers.

Immigrants applying for citizenship are given only two chances to pass the test before they must restart the application process from scratch — and pay the filing fee of at least \$640 again. If they fail at their first interview, they must retake the civics exam at another interview between 60 and 90 days later.

Answers:

(1.) 27

44% of readers answered this correctly.

(2.) Franklin was the nation's first postmaster general

49% of readers answered this correctly.

(3.) The President during WWI was Woodrow Wilson

81% of readers answered this correctly.

(4.) Which correctly describes the "Rule of Law" — No one is above the law

You rule! But don't forget that "in America, the law is king," as Thomas Paine once wrote.

"For as in absolute governments the King is law," he explained, "so in free countries the law ought to be king; and there ought to be no other."

98% of readers answered this correctly.

(5.) Which power does NOT belong to the federal government? — The power to Ratify Amendments to the Constitution.

The federal government has many powers, but it cannot amend the Constitution on its own; it can only send proposed amendments to the states to be ratified.

Two-thirds votes of both the House and Senate are needed to get the ball rolling; then three-quarters of the states must ratify an amendment to make it part of the Constitution.

68% of readers answered this correctly.

(6.) U.S. Senator's are elected for 6 years.

79% of readers answered this correctly.

(7.) Our current Chief Justice of the United States is John G. Roberts Jr.

87% of readers answered this correctly.

(8.) There are 435 voting members of the House of

Representatives
66% of readers answered this correctly.

(9.) Federalist Papers— James Madison, Alexander Hamilton and John Jay were authors.

JOHN ADAMS WAS NOT
32% of readers answered this correctly.

(10.) The Constitution was written in 1787
72% of readers answered this correctly.

DONOR OF THE MONTH John McGovern '62– A Life of Integrity & Grace

John E McGovern (1940-2023) grew up in Wallingford, Pennsylvania. He attended Archmere Academy in Delaware and graduated from Villanova University in 1962 with a degree in Accounting. As part of the College of Commerce And Finance, John agreed with Ben Franklin's "an investment in education pays dividends."

Upon graduating from Villanova, John took a job with Ford Motor Company in New Jersey as a trainee. He advanced to being a Field Representative calling on dealers in the metropolitan New York area. In 1970 John was recruited to join the up-and-coming American operation for Toyota Motor Sales USA in Torrance, California. His first job was as head of customer relations, which at that time kept him very busy. Over his 29 years at Toyota John held many positions, including head of Service, Administration, Industrial Equipment, Dealer Relations and Chairman of Air



Flight, Toyota's FBO operation.

According to Sean Belk with *Business Journal*, "in 1991,

Toyota built AirFlite's four-story terminal building, where pilots, crew and passengers of all kinds walk through on a daily basis. Today, the building offers a computerized flight planning room, food catering, courtesy transportation, five executive conference rooms, showers and other amenities. As one of its first ventures into aviation, Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. purchased a fixed base operation (FBO) – akin to a gas station with hotel concierge service for private aircraft travelers – at Long Beach Airport in 1989. Being a global company, Toyota quickly learned the benefit of business aviation and grew its fleet of corporate jets, many of which are housed in AirFlite's vast hangar space."

He retired as Senior Vice President of Finance in 1999.

After retirement John gave back to the community by serving as a driver for the Huntington Beach Seniors on the Go, which provided transportation to anywhere in the HB area. He also served on the Environmental

Board and the Public Works committee for the City of Huntington Beach.

John was a longtime

member of the financial council at his church, Saints Simon and Jude.

John was always committed to the importance of education as the means for all people to succeed in life. He was one of the founding members of the Golden West Community College Educational Foundation in HB, which gives scholarships to students in need. John proudly supported the Blue White Scholarship Foundation at Villanova. His belief was that every student who needed help should be able to get it no matter what their station in life.

John lived his life with integrity and grace. He valued education and hard work, and was genuinely interested in every person he met. He is sorely missed by his family and friends.

John loved Villanova, and donated to Blue White for over 40 years. In lieu of flowers, the family chose to request memorial donations to be made out to the Blue White Scholarship Fund. This kind gesture raised over 3,000 dollars. We thank Linda and the McGovern family for their generosity. To my Irish friend I say, John,



"Goodbyes are not forever, goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I'll miss you, until we meet again".



Sizzling Summer Cocktails To Keep You Cool



Ingredients

- ½ medium lime, cut into 3 wedges, divided
- 10 fresh mint leaves
- 2 tablespoons white sugar
- 1 cup ice cubes, or as needed
- ½ fluid ounces white rum
- ½ cup club soda, or as needed

Directions The Real Mojito

1. Place mint leaves and 1 lime wedge into a sturdy glass. Use a muddler and crush to release mint oils and lime juice.
2. Add remaining lime wedges and 2 tablespoons sugar, and muddle again to release the lime juice. Do not strain the mixture.
3. Fill the glass almost to the top with ice.
4. Pour in rum and fill the glass with club soda.
5. Stir, taste, and add more sugar if desired.

Christmas in July –Singing along with Pharrell Williams

[Verse 1]

It might seem crazy what I'm 'bout to say
Sunshine she's here, you can take a break
I'm a hot air balloon that could go to space
With the air, like I don't care, baby, by the way

[Chorus]

(Because I'm happy)
Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof
(Because I'm happy)
Clap along if you feel like happiness is the truth
(Because I'm happy)
Clap along if you know what happiness is to you
(Because I'm happy)

- If you are happy, then do, please make a student happy by making a donation today.
- Tis the season to be happy!
- Donate in July!- Be Happy



venmo

Summer Solstice Fun Facts

June 21st is the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. This marks the first day of summer, hence the coined name "Summer Solstice." This day and season is rumored to bring an abundance of luck, check out some of the examples below!

What is the summer solstice?

The summer solstice occurs when the sun is at its highest point in the sky. Earth's axis tilts to this position, which is about 23.5 degrees relative to its orbital plane around the Sun. This tilting axis is also the cause of changing seasons on our hemisphere.

Fun Facts:

Summer solstice almost always falls on June 21st but can range anywhere from the 20th to the 22nd, depending on the year and the time zone.

The farther North you are, the more daylight you enjoy.

On this day, around 90% of the world's population—those who live in the Northern Hemisphere—experience a longer term of daylight and a shorter nightfall.

For example, in the shoulder seasons the sun is typically up for 12 hours. In places more south like Hawaii the solstice will have 13.5 hours of daylight, but farther north, say Vermont, there will be 15.5 hours of daylight.

For several days or weeks before and after June 21, those living in the Arctic (including parts of Alaska, Canada,



Greenland and Scandinavia) will have a "midnight sun," which is a result of continuous daylight.

How to celebrate:

Get married? The solstice is a historically popular time for weddings!

Druids (religious leaders in Celtic cultures) considered the solstice a "marriage of day and night." As a result, a percentage of couples will choose to wed in June because of its association with luck.

"Honeymoon" was originally expressed as the midsummer moon, some ceremonies even included honey.

Lastly, a June wedding meant that a child



would bore in early spring (because June is exactly 9 months prior to the spring season), and this was believed to increase the baby's chance of survival.

Have a bonfire!

Evening bonfires have been a solstice tradition for centuries.

Celtic, Germanic, and Slavic groups in Europe used to welcome the summer solstice with bonfires because they believed the fire would harness the sun's energy for the continuing months into harvest season.



Thank you Letter from Erin Welch

My name is Erin Welch and I am a scholarship recipient writing to thank you for your donation to the Blue White Scholarship Foundation. Because of your generosity, I can focus on excelling in academics and staying involved in the campus community. For this gift, I could not be more grateful.

A bit about myself, I am two-time scholarship recipient from South Philadelphia. I am entering my senior year at Villanova studying Biology with a minor in Global Health. In my time on Lancaster Ave, I have become a member of the rowing team, a resident assistant, a research assistant in a marine ecology lab, and a partner with Community Outreach. As a true Philadelphian, I cannot get enough of the Schuylkill River, so I coach my high school team, Merion Mercy Academy, in the afternoons down on Boathouse Row.

After nine years of rowing, the sport has become a part of my identity. It led me to look for a university with a strong sense of community and seek out organizations with like-minded individuals who are willing to pull for each other and, of course, "pay it forward." I am incredibly lucky to have found the continued support Blue White Club throughout my education and even more fortunate to have benefitted from generous donors like yourself.

I graduated from Merion Mercy Academy in Merion Station, PA in 2019. Fortunately, my high school career did not end here. In the summer of 2019, my crew and I raced in Henley-on-Thames in England. It was the summer of a lifetime!

In 2019, I was entering my freshman year and my brother, Aidan, was a junior at

Millersville University when my mom lost her job due to the closure of Hahnemann University Hospital. She had worked there for 28 years when they closed their doors. My Mom lost her pension and was able to get another technician job, but at 50 % reduced pay rate. Then in 2022, my father lost his job, which led to continued uncertainty for my family. When I was notified that I was awarded a scholarship from the Blue White Scholarship Foundation, not only me but my entire family was relieved. Your donation has helped ease the financial burdens of my education and allows me to focus on my role as a student rather than an employee. We could not be more thankful for your continued support.

In the 2022 CAA Conference Championships my boat and I placed 4th as a crew in the Varsity 8+ category. I led the crew in stroke seat, supported by best



Varsity 8+ after CAA Conference Championships in 2022

friend Julia in the coxswain's seat. Our team faced a challenging year when our boathouse was flooded and closed after Hurricane Ida. We rowed out of a trailer long enough to compete in the Head of the Schuylkill last fall and to compete in our sport's season last spring. I could not be more excited to get out on the river after being landlocked all summer and of course to be back with my teammates. Villanova Rowing is truly something



special -- special enough to make every 4 AM wake up call worth it!

This year, I was able to continue my extracurricular involvements, something I saw explode after being awarded the scholarship last year. I finally had the time to join a research lab where I experimented the effects of hyposalinity on the tube feet of sea urchins. This summer, I was able to earn clinical experience as ER Technician instead of devoting all my time to waitressing. I was also able to be more involved with Alpha Epsilon Delta, the healthcare honors society, and served

as a teaching assistant for an Organic Chemistry lab. With your help, I can afford to take advantage of every opportunity Villanova had to offer. I plan to enter the healthcare field as a physician and will finally be able to position myself as a candidate for medical school and prepare for the MCAT. Because of your donation, I can

become the best version of myself now and set myself up for future success.

As a daughter, thank you for easing the burden on my parents. As a student, thank you for helping me succeed. I wish you and your family all the best and hope to thank you in person soon.

With sincere gratitude,
Erin Welch

Student SPOTLIGHT: Erin Welch (Cover) Marine Ecology

This past school year, I had the opportunity to work in Dr. Michael Russel's Marine Ecology Research lab right here



on Villanova's campus. As a research assistant in the lab, I helped senior thesis students and the post-doctoral fellow with their experiments on *Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis*, commonly known as green sea urchins. Part of my position in the lab involved general maintenance on the marine sea table, but the other portion involved assisting in hyposalinity exposure experiments with the marine invertebrates. By working in a marine ecology lab, I learned how to approach problems and ask questions like a scientist. I learned the importance and the nuances of scientific reasoning and statistical analysis from my peers. I am incredibly grateful for this experience and its influence on my development as a scientist.

I came across this position somewhat serendipitously in a conversation with my Organic Chemistry tutor. He was a member of a trip to Friday Harbor, WA in which they obtained about 100 sea urchins and performed preliminary experiments in the field. From his recommendation, I found a position in the lab as a research assistant. At first, this position was quite challenging given my lack of exposure to the field of marine biology. I had to grow accustomed to the sound of the chiller that cooled the wa-

ter to 10°C and the circulating pump that sent water throughout the whole system. Most importantly, I had to be able to recognize if the noise was not normal and indicated a problem with the flow of water within the system. However, within a few weeks I was dissecting sea urchins as a part of the preliminary research, cleaning the table on my own, and using software to track the locomotion of the sea urchins.

I spent a great deal of time in the lab meetings observing the reasoning of my peers and the professors. From their example, I learned how to reason like a scientist and perform correct scientific procedures. I also learned a lot about Marine Biology. From my time in the lab, I learned that these echinoderms are natives of the frigid northern waters of the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. I also learned that salinity, the variable which is changed in the experiments, is critical to the survival of sea urchins given the impact it has on their tube feet.



Tube feet are a part of sea urchins vascular water system which is based inside its shell or "test." The sea urchin moves, eats, and breathes through their tube feet, which are greatly impacted by the salinity of their environment. Tube feet and their adhesive qualities are the subject of a great deal of echinoderm research, including the lab at Villanova.

The senior thesis students tested the impact of hyposalinity on the adhesive qual-



Erin spent every summer with her grandparents who lived at the seashore hence her curiosity about the ocean. While living with her grandparents she worked at an ice cream parlor until last year where she interned at a hospital as an ER Technician

ities of tube feet and sea urchin performance.

They also looked at the effects of PIT tagging sea urchins, a common method used to track and identify urchins by inserting a microchip beneath the test. Throughout the year, we held weekly lab meetings in which we discussed everything from urchin anatomy to the experimental design of hyposalinity exposures and the sea table itself. I enjoyed working alongside both experienced marine biologists and my peers studying Biology at 'Nova.

Though I am not pursuing a career in marine biology, my time as a research assistant was crucial to my development as a healthcare professional. I learned how to reason as a scientist by utilizing data and standardized practices to draw conclusions. From this role, I also realized the precision and care that goes into drawing conclusions and developing solutions to problems. These skills have proven to be vital to my development as a scientist and an aspiring healthcare provider. POST-NOTE: Erin spent the month of June studying for the MCATS. She is now applying to medical schools. If accepted she will join the Navy to offset set the cost.

St. Francis of Assisi – A Life of Integrity and Grace

Francis of Assisi, or *Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone*, was one of the most venerated figures in Christianity. He was an Italian mystic and Catholic friar who founded the Franciscans Order. One of the most venerated figures in Christianity, Francis was canonized by Pope Gregory IX on 16 July 1228.

In 1219, he went to Egypt in an attempt to convert the sultan al-Kamil and put an end to the conflict of the Fifth Crusade (reacquire Jerusalem and the rest of the Holy Land). In 1223, he arranged for the first live nativity scene as part of the annual Christmas celebration in Greccio.

Francis founded the men's Order of Friars Minor, the women's Order of St. Clare, the Third Order of St. Francis and the Custody of the Holy Land. Francis grew up rather indulged by his parents, and lived a relatively care-free life.

Once, while he was selling cloth and velvet in the marketplace on behalf of his father, a beggar came to him and asked for alms. At the conclusion of his business deal, Francis abandoned his wares and ran after the beggar. When he found him, Francis gave the man everything he had in his pockets. His friends mocked him for his charity; his father scolded him in rage. Saint Francis began to reevaluate his life following this point. He joined a military expedition against Perugia and was taken as a prisoner at Collestrada, on a pilgrimage to Rome, he joined the poor in begging at St. Peter's Basilica, and he gave wealth to those who did not have it.

Saint Francis hid for a period of time in order to avoid his father's wrath. However, when he finally returned to town, hungry and dirty, he was dragged home by his father, beaten, bound, and locked in a small storeroom. After his escape, he wandered as a beggar in the hills behind Assisi.

While Francis was praying on the mountain of

Verna, during a forty-day fast in preparation for Michaelmas, which takes place on 29 September, Francis is said to have had a vision around 13 September 1224, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, as a result of which he received the stigmata. The stigmata is known as the gift of the five wounds of Christ. Francis passed on October 3 in 1224, following care from the stigmata injuries.

On July 16, 1228, Pope Gregory IX declared Francis a Saint and laid the foundation stone for *Basilica of Saint Francis* in Assisi the very next day. On 18 June 1939, Pope Pius XII named Francis a joint patron saint of Italy in the Church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva.

Francis set out to imitate Christ and literally carry out his work. This is important in understanding Francis' character, his affinity for the Eucharist and respect for the priests who carried out the sacrament. He preached:

"Your God is of your flesh, He lives in your nearest neighbor, in every man."

On 18 June 1939, Pope Pius XII named Francis a joint patron saint of Italy in the Church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva, then on 29 November 1979, Pope John Paul II declared Francis the patron saint of ecology.

Many of the stories that surround the life of Francis say that he had a great love for animals and the environment. Francis' feast day is observed on 4 October. On October 4, any household may join in the blessing of pets and animals to recognize Saint Francis love for them, calling the animals his brothers & sisters. A secondary feast, in honor of the stigmata received by Francis, is celebrated on 17 September.

Please join us in celebrating the life of St. Francis of Assisi and participate in our new fundraising idea. The photo on the next page of a dog on the beach is me and my girl Abby, or affectionally Abby Dabby Do!



We're hosting an innovative fundraiser— A virtual blessing for Pets!

The Feast Day of **St. Francis of Assisi** is October 4. It is a popular practice on this feast day for people to bring their pets and other animals to church for a blessing. Because Blue White Scholars and Blue White Donors are located all over the U.S.A. we will be celebrating virtually.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Take a great photo of your pet
2. Send the Photo:
 - by text to (610) 304-3848 and include your name and make sure you include your pet's name
 - by email to KateCellucci@BlueWhiteClub.com
3. Make a donation in your pet's name on line or call (610) 519-0777

The History of the Blessing:

The blessing of pets and animals is a Christian tradition that honors St. Francis of Assisi, who loved all creatures and prayed for peace. The feast of St. Francis is celebrated on October 4, or on a Sunday near that date. Churches around the world offer special prayers and ceremonies for pets and their caretakers, sometimes as a drive-through or procession. The blessing means imparting God's power or life to the animals.

More Background Information:

October 4th is not only the feast day for St. Francis of Assisi, but it is World Animal Day. This is the perfect opportunity to show our adoration for our beloved pets, with spend their whole lives revolved around us. The blessing of animals witnesses to God's and the Church's care and concern for our mutual interdependence with God's creatures. This symbiotic relationship



shared between man and animals boosts our serotonin levels. Reciprocate this feeling for your pets by joining our celebration and bestowing a blessing upon them!

In honor of Saint Francis of Assisi, one of our very own Villanovan's, Anthony Albanese, will be performing a blessing for the animals.

Deadline to share your share your story and love for God's creatures. SEPTEMBER 30
P.S. Best Photo will receive a prize!

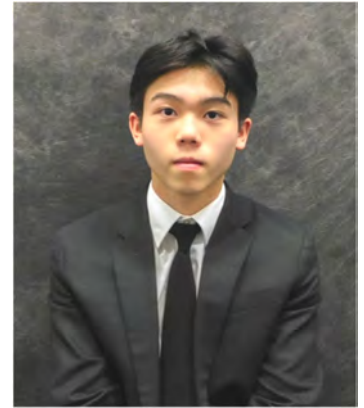
2023

NEWS

Post Graduation News

Andrew Choy '23

After graduation I am planning to work at NYU Langone Health, in New York City, as a registered nurse. It has always been my dream to work at NYU Langone Health, where my grandmother received her healthcare while battling cancer. The unit I would like to work in is the Intensive Care Unit because I found critical care the most engaging environment. Before I am eligible to work as a registered nurse, I will have to take the National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX). I am excited to finally pursue my passion for healthcare and be a registered nurse!



Lucas Yannul '23

I'm very excited to have graduated from Villanova to start my career as a software engineer. My plan is to return to JPMorgan Chase where I interned last summer, and I couldn't be more thrilled about it. During my internship, I gained valuable experience in the field and was able to work on real-world projects. Returning to JPMC means that I'll be able to build upon the skills and knowledge that I acquired during my internship and apply them to new challenges. I will be working out of the offices in Wilmington Delaware which is only about a 50-minute commute from my house. I am in the midst of team matching to determine the exact team and line of business I will be working in. If you use chase.com, there is a good chance that you will interact with some of my future work!

Anna Staiger '23

After graduation, I will be working as a Registered Nurse in Lankenau's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). I will be caring for newborns who require extra care before going home from the hospital. I have been passionate about neonatal nursing care since I began taking classes at Villanova and I am beyond excited to care for this patient population after I graduate this May. Thank you to the Blue White scholarship for supporting me during my journey and for helping me achieve my goals!



Erin Welch '23

This summer, following my graduation from Villanova University, I will be traveling with the team I coach, Merion Mercy Academy, to US Rowing Youth Nationals in Sarasota, FL. I am also working as a Emergency Department technician at Cape Regional Medical Center and as a volunteer research assistant at Cooper University Hospital. I am very excited to be working with patients again and to gain clinical research experience before applying to medical school. Thank you to Blue White Scholarship Foundation for all of their support throughout my Villanova career.

2023



Post Graduation News

Stephen Sloane '23



* This summer, after my graduation, I expect to have a few months of waiting until I can start my upcoming job at Lockheed Martin. This is because the role requires a security clearance that the government has to approve me for first. In the meantime, I'm hoping to take advantage of what could be my last real summer! I'm planning to take lots of road trips to visit and spend time with friends, make some new memories, and potentially look for part time work to keep making money while I wait to start my job.

But I'm so excited to start my role after I'm officially approved to start! I will be working in Northern Virginia, so I'll be moving a few hours away.

My role is in the Space division of Lockheed Martin. I will be a Spacecraft and Satellite Systems Engineer. I'll specifically be responsible for the flight operations of those airborne systems. Systems engineering is like a big-picture type of engineering in which you're responsible for looking at the entire system being dealt with (in my case, that of a spacecraft or satellite). It involves making judgments and detecting problems in order to improve the design, performance, and/or maintenance of the system. So, that means a lot of coordination with other teams and engineers responsible for various components of that single system in order to make sure everything is operating as safely and efficiently as possible. I'm really excited to begin this role and cannot wait to continue to learn and grow in my position.

Katherine Flanagan '23

Following graduation, this summer I am studying for my NCLEX, which stands for National Council Licensure Examination. Upon passing, I will obtain my RN and start working in the surgical ICU at the Cleveland Clinic in August!



Jake Coppen '23



Since graduation, I have continued to serve as the CEO of "Now", a leading software company that specializes in creating innovative solutions in the live entertainment space. We offer cutting-edge technology and solutions that seamlessly integrate with our clients' existing systems, providing a customized experience that is unparalleled in the industry.



Blue White
Scholarship Foundation
Box 412, Villanova PA 19085
(610) 519-0777
www.BlueWhiteScholarship.org



It's the Anniversary of BWSF!

The Blue White Scholarship Foundation, originally the Wildcat Club, was founded in 1973, making this year our 50th Anniversary. In 2001, the Wildcat club transitioned over to BWSF, and we'd like you to celebrate with us after the homecoming game at Villanova!



Saturday October 28th
6-10 pm

The Saturday Club

117 W Wayne Ave,
Wayne, PA 19087

Interested in dinner and/or
open bar? Call Kate

Space is limited, to 100
people so don't wait!

\$100 per person

The Blue White Scholarship Foundation (BWSF) is a private 501(c)(3) organization that is composed of and operated by Villanova Alumni and friends. We are "Villanovans Helping Villanovans" Although the Scholarship Awards are sent directly to Villanova, BWSF is not affiliated with VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY®. The following words are marks registered with the United States Federal Patent and Trademark Office for Villanova University: VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY®, VILLANOVA®, WILDCATS™. The Villanova "V" is also a registered service mark that is copyright and trademarked by VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY®. All other content is subject to copyright and may not be copied or reproduced. Copyright © 2022 All Rights Reserved.